



WINTER 2020

The GAMbit

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE
GIFTED ASSOCIATION OF MISSOURI



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Legislative Advocacy and Professional Development!

This spring promises to be an exciting time for gifted students and educators in the state of Missouri! We continue to work with the state legislature to shape the future of gifted education in our school systems and need your support through the season when it comes to contacting representatives and senators. Additionally, GAM Day at the Capitol is quickly approaching and will provide an opportunity to show your students governance firsthand on February 26th. On an individual level, GAM districts have put together a marvelous series of professional development opportunities for the spring, with even more to come. Enjoy!





**JOIN GAM
TODAY**

— & —

help make a
difference in
GIFTED EDUCATION

Upcoming Events

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| February 10 | Speaker Series - Ms. Christine Nobbe in Lindbergh, MO |
| February 14 | Student Legislative Letter Contest Deadline |
| February 26 | GAM Day at the Capitol |
| March 7 | Mini-Conference in St. Louis, MO |
| March 30 | Gifted Mini-Conference in Joplin, MO |
| April 4 | Gifted Pathways Institute Workshop at Northland Innovation Center |
| May 1 | Vicky Bennett Scholarship Nominations Due |
| July 27-28 | New Teacher Workshop |



Letter from the President

Ms. Peggy Pennington



Welcome, GAMbit readers, to a new year, a new decade, and a renewed determination to support gifted students in the state of Missouri! The upcoming year is setting up to be an exciting one as The Gifted Association of Missouri has many events in the works for the upcoming year.

GAM Day at the Capitol - February 26, 2020

First up at the end of February is GAM Day at the Capitol. This special event is an opportunity to teach students about how to have a role in the legislative process. When I first started working with the Gifted Association of Missouri, I was nervous about contacting my legislator and being involved in the legislative process. I thought, “They don’t want to hear from me. Will what I say even make a difference?” Yes. It does. What I share with my legislator does make a difference. I have the confidence that my legislator knows and understands my point of view. If you are bringing students to the day, take the time to contact your legislator in advance and set up an appointment to meet with him or her. We are also adding a registration form to our website for groups/schools that are attending so that we can recognize the schools that are attending.

Student Letter to a Legislator Contest

GAM will also have a student contest in conjunction with the day. Last year’s Letter to a Legislator Contest was so successful that we are doing it again.



Winners will be recognized during the GAM Day at the Capitol event. Check out the GAM website to find more details. The deadline to enter student letters is February 15. We hope to see an inbox full of letters!

Legislative Updates

GAM also has legislative issues that are on our priority list. The first is House bill 1317 sponsored by Representative Chrissy Sommer (R-St. Charles) and Senate Bill 645 sponsored by Senator Denny Hoskins (R-Warrensburg) which have been filed. This legislation would require that every school in Missouri provide state approved gifted education programs for students identified as “gifted” under section 162.675 and that all program services are provided by teachers with a valid certification in gifted education.

A second important legislative issue is to support funding for the Missouri Scholars Academy and the Missouri Fine Arts Academy for the fiscal year 2021. The Scholars Academy is a three-week residential program at MU for 330 high school juniors who are academically gifted and The Fine Arts Academy is a three-week residential program at MSU for 150 rising high school juniors and seniors who are gifted in the arts. Please use your voice to help us support both important causes.

New Teacher Workshop

Another important event that we have coming up in 2020 will be our New Teacher Workshop which will be held at the SAGE Northland Innovation Center in Gladstone which is part of the North Kansas City School district. It will be held on July 27-28. The workshop is intended for teachers in before or



after their first year of teaching gifted, but anyone is invited to register and attend. The workshop focuses on issues from identification to certification to curriculum. It is a great way for teachers that are new to gifted to start to build a network of resources. Registration will be available soon via our website.

Vicky Bennett Outstanding Student Award

Also don't forget that May 1st is the deadline for the Vicky Bennett Outstanding Student award. The award recognizes with a \$250 scholarship a gifted student in grades 3-8 who has distinguished himself/herself in academic study, leadership, and/or the field of art/performance. You can find more information on the nomination process on the website under the Events tab.

Check out www.mogam.org for more information on the events above and to keep up to date with GAM's happenings.



5 great

Reasons to Pursue Gifted Certification

at Truman State University



5. Get to work faster with fully online and accelerated courses that can get you certified within a calendar year.
4. Save money with a total course price of almost \$500 less than the normal graduate rate.
3. Benefit from the expertise of outstanding Truman faculty and practicing gifted educators.
2. Enjoy the quality you've come to expect from a Truman education.
1. Enhance your teaching of gifted and talented students.

Annually Scheduled Accelerated Courses – ALL ONLINE!

ED 550G – Introduction to Gifted and Talented (May 26–June 26, 2020)

ED 650G – Identification of Gifted (June 29–July 31, 2020)

ED 651G – Curriculum for Gifted (August 17–December 11, 2020)

ED 652G – Meeting Affective Needs of Gifted Children (May 26–June 26, 2020)

ED 653G – Programming, Planning, and Development: Administration and Supervision of Gifted Programs (June 29–July 31, 2020)

Most of these courses are scheduled during the summer months for your convenience.

In addition to these courses, DESE requires “Psychology of the Exceptional Child” for gifted certification, as well as a research course, and an internship. Most teachers completed the Psychology course and a research course during their initial teaching certification, which typically meets these requirements. Truman also offers these courses if you need them. You can complete your internship through Truman at multiple points during the year.

Cost Courses are offered to Missouri K-12 teachers at a special rate of \$220 per credit hour.* That's a savings of almost \$500 over the normal Graduate rate!

*Online courses charge an additional \$30 fee to support technology costs.

For More Information

PHONE: 660-785-5384

EMAIL: institute@truman.edu

WEB: pd.truman.edu/gifted

Christine Nobbe
Director, Gifted Education
Christine.Nobbe@dese.mo.gov
573.751.7754



Greetings from Missouri
Department of Elementary and
Secondary Education Gifted
Education! I believe 2020 will be a banner year for gifted education!

Since my last column many important events have occurred including:

- The Advisory Council on the Education of Gifted and Talented Children presented their third biennial report to the State Board of Education. It outlines several recommendations and is worth a read: https://dese.mo.gov/sites/default/files/GAC_2019_Biennial_Report.pdf. The Council's next meeting is February 26, 2020; more information is on the Council's website. <https://dese.mo.gov/gifted-advisory-council>
- New reports will be available on the DESE website, providing data about gifted education in Missouri. I will send a listserv message when the reports are posted. (<https://lists.mo.gov/mailman/listinfo/gifted-ed> to join the listserv)
- I visited several school systems:
 - Ferguson Florissant
 - Lift for Life Academy
 - Neosho School District
 - Joplin's Local Administrators of Special Education (LASE)
 - West Platte Elementary
 - School District of Washington
 - Bowling Green R-1
 - Parkway School District
 - Warrenton School District

It is my goal to increase nominations for Missouri Scholars Academy and Missouri Fine Arts Academy and now is the time to nominate students. Essential links:

- <https://www.missouristate.edu/mfaa/>
- <https://www.missouristate.edu/mfaa/hub.htm> (applications for students, faculty, and RAs)
- <https://moscholars.missouri.edu/>
- <https://moscholars.missouri.edu/event/msa-2020-nominations-open/> (student nominations)

If you haven't nominated students and need guidance, please contact me.

Another goal is to provide professional development and several PD opportunities are upcoming:

- Trends in Gifted Education, March 5 in Kirksville; Register: <https://www.mylearningplan.com/WebReg/ActivityProfile.asp?D=11005&I=3305338>
- Universal Design for Learning on March 8 at Tan-Tar-A (a pre-conference session for the Show Me Professional Learning Conference). I would like gifted education teachers to learn about this approach to teaching to share with classroom teachers, as it will benefit gifted learners. I will attend the pre-conference. <https://www.eiseverywhere.com/513150> Contact me for more information.
- April 1 in Jefferson City; Differentiated Instruction for Gifted Classes: Using the Curry/Samara Model as a Tool to Develop Quality Units with Dr. Rick Courtright, Duke TIP; Register (free): <https://differentiatedgifted.eventbrite.com>
- April 2 in Jefferson City; Socratic Inquiry and Seminar Teaching for All Learners with Dr. Rick Courtright, Duke TIP; general education and gifted education teachers are invited to attend; Register (free): <https://socraticinquiry4all.eventbrite.com>

I am working on a schedule for summer workshops and will be sending it via the Gifted Ed listserv and posting it on the website. <https://dese.mo.gov/quality-schools/gifted-education>

I am conducting numerous presentations and need examples of remarkable things that are happening in gifted programs. For example, Meredith Wisniewski sent this in an email: Carter, a 7th grade student in the Springfield Scholars Program, was recently featured in an interview on Homeless Awareness Month. Last year Carter received an award for Homeless Advocacy from Ozarks Alliance to End Homelessness. <https://www.ozarksfirst.com/video/ozarks-tonight-homeless-awareness-month/4071999/> I have also received a letter from a parent and a newspaper clipping. Please send me your success stories!

I look forward to seeing you at GAM Day at the Capitol on February 26! (Visit the GAM website for more information: <http://www.mogam.org/>.)

Northwestern University's

Center for Talent Development

PROGRAMS & RESOURCES FOR STUDENTS & FAMILIES

Center for Talent Development

at Northwestern University is dedicated to helping gifted students reach full potential. CTD's pathways approach leads students on a journey of intellectual, emotional and social growth.

CTD provides research-based assessment and advanced enrichment and accelerated, credit-bearing programs for students. For schools and educators, CTD offers professional development, program evaluations, and collaborative programming.

For Students Age 3-Grade 12

- > Assessment to identify academic strengths
- > Rigorous, individualized online courses, offered year-round
- > Residential and commuter summer programs held on Northwestern University's Evanston, IL campus and at sites in the Chicago area

**Summer 2020 Courses
Now Enrolling!**



Join CTD's Online Community

- > CTD Backpack™ for families and students
- > Online Family Program (K-grade 3)

Explore all programs online using CTD's Explore Courses tool!

ctd.northwestern.edu



Northwestern | CTD



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The **Academy of Mathematics & Science at Fort Hays State University** offers an unparalleled academic experience for gifted and talented high school students from around the world. Students in the Academy are challenged to excel and complete their high school education living and learning alongside likeminded peers on the innovative and friendly FHSU campus.

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Gifted Association of Missouri

District 8 Mini Conference

Saturday, March 7, 2020

@

Sperreng Middle School

12111 Tesson Ferry Rd.
St. Louis, MO 63128

8:30 AM - 12:30 PM

Cost: \$20

Attend sessions by:

Christine Nobbe - Dr. Tracy Bednarick
Justin Villet - Tracey Robinson - Paul Husch
Jennifer Fisher, Ph.D.

Sessions will be available for teachers, parents, and
students.

All are welcome.

Please Register Through Eventbrite at:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/region-8-gifted-association-of-missouri-mini-conference-tickets-90331623317>

Legislative Update

Ms. Kyna Iman

GIFTED ASSOCIATION OF MISSOURI 2020 State Advocacy Agenda

The Gifted Association of Missouri requests your advocacy on the following issues:

FUNDING FOR GIFTED EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Support legislation that requires every school in Missouri provide state approved gifted education programs for students identified as “gifted” under section 162.675 and that all program services are provided by teachers with a valid certification in gifted education.

MO SCHOLARS ACADEMY & MO FINE ARTS ACADEMY

Support state funding for the Missouri Scholars Academy and Missouri Fine Arts Academy for June, 2021. The Scholars Academy is a three-week residential program at MU for 330 high school juniors who are academically gifted; The Fine Arts Academy is a three-week residential program at MSU for 150 rising high school juniors and seniors who are gifted in the arts.

MISSOURI SCHOOL FOUNDATION FORMULA FUNDING

Support increased funding for the Missouri School Foundation Formula. Support \$3.9 billion appropriation in House Bill 2 for the Department of Elementary & Secondary Education.



OTHER GIFTED FACTS & FIGURES

\$24,870,104 was appropriated for gifted education in FY2006. There were 295 school districts with state approved gifted programs. In FY2007, this amount was rolled into the new foundation formula. Without this line item providing earmarked funding for state approved gifted programs, those funds can be spent on other programs, and there are now only 215 school districts offering state approved gifted programs.

GAM DAY AT THE CAPITOL IS WEDNESDAY, FEB. 26, AT 11:00 AM

You can find your legislators by visiting the Missouri Senate website Legislative Look-Up:

www.senate.mo.gov/llookup/leg_lookup.aspx

It will give you contact information and a webpage on your Legislators. If you have questions, please contact GAM's Governmental Consultant, Kyna Iman, at kynaiman@earthlink.net



ad·vo·cate

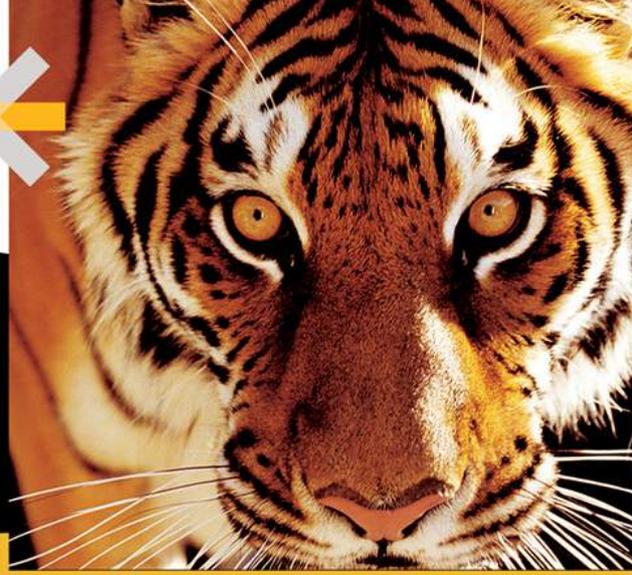
noun

1. a person who publicly supports or recommends a particular cause or policy.

verb

1. publicly recommend or support.





GIFTED EDUCATION ONLINE

Master's degree (M Ed) in special education
with an emphasis in gifted education

Choose your option:

MASTER'S DEGREE An online master's degree designed to enhance the process of teaching and learning in the elementary, middle or high school classroom.

MISSOURI CERTIFICATION The necessary gifted course work to prepare for Missouri gifted education certification – available online.

All courses listed meet requirements for Missouri Gifted Certification.

Teachers seeking Missouri Gifted Certification may enroll online as post-baccalaureate students without making an application to a degree program.

Courses may be taken in any order beginning in any semester.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

Nancy Gerardy
Gifted Education Program Coordinator
Special Education Department
GerardyN@missouri.edu
573-268-7766

SUMMER SEMESTER 2020

- Readings in Gifted Education (SPC_ED 8085, master's program students only)
- Research with Exceptional Children (SPC_ED 8350)
- Curriculum Methods for Gifted and Talented Students (SPC_ED 8391)
- Administration and Supervision of Gifted Programs (SPC_ED 8410)
- Practicum: Gifted Education (SPC_ED 8946)

FALL SEMESTER 2020

- Curriculum Methods for Gifted and Talented Students (SPC_ED 8391)
- Assessment and Evaluation in Gifted Education (SPC_ED 8405)
- Differentiating Instruction: Reaching Gifted, Typical and Struggling Learners (SPC_ED 8406)
- Practicum: Gifted Education (SPC_ED 8946)

SPRING SEMESTER 2021

- Research with Exceptional Children (SPC_ED 8350)
- Nature and Needs of Gifted and Talented Students (SPC_ED 8380)
- Assessment and Evaluation in Gifted Education (SPC_ED 8405)
- Differentiating Instruction: Reaching Gifted, Typical and Struggling Learners (SPC_ED 8406)
- Practicum: Gifted Education (SPC_ED 8946)





GAM 2020 STUDENT CONTEST

Legislative Letter Contest

Contest Description: The GAM 2020 Student Contest, **Legislative Letter Contest**, is a challenge to gifted students **grades 3-8** in Missouri to write a letter of support for one of the GAM sponsored pieces of legislation in the 2020 session. These are:

House Bill 1317 and Senate Bill 645 -- PROVISIONS FOR GIFTED EDUCATION

Sponsored by Representative Chrissy Sommer and Senator Denny Hoskins

This bill requires school districts to establish a state-approved gifted program if 3% or more of the students are determined to be gifted. Districts with average daily attendance of 350 or more students are required to have a teacher certificated to teach gifted education. Any teacher providing gifted instruction without a gifted-teaching certificate must participate in six hours per year of professional development regarding gifted services.

YOU CAN FIND INFORMATION ON THE BILLS HERE:

<https://www.house.mo.gov/billtracking/bills201/hlrbillspdf/3034H.02I.pdf>

https://www.senate.mo.gov/20info/BTS_Web/Bill.aspx?SessionType=R&BillID=26838018

What to do: The contest will officially be released on the GAM website, www.mogam.org on JANUARY 13, 2020. First, go to www.mogam.org and download this document, which includes the student release statement on page 2. Next, you will create an individual letter (no groups or teams). This letter should be in support of GAM legislation and follow the following criteria:

1. The letter is to be written to the student's legislator in the district in which they live.
2. The letter should be informative and provide a good understanding of the bill the student is in support of, what the bill means, and what that bill will mean for gifted programs in the state of Missouri.
3. The letter should include how this bill will impact them and gifted students across the state of Missouri. The letter should be addressed to the student's legislator and will be printed and delivered to the legislator after the contest.

The student should use their name and grade, and is encouraged to provide their address on the letter because they might receive a letter back from their legislator, but this is not required for submission.

When & how to submit: SUBMIT THE LETTER AS A PDF ATTACHMENT ONLY, DO NOT SHARE THROUGH GOOGLE DRIVE, ONLY AS AN ATTACHMENT to:

dragonim@ritenourschools.org

DEADLINE IS FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2020 AT 3PM CST. THIS IS THE FINAL DEADLINE, ANY PROPOSALS SUBMITTED AFTER FEBRUARY 14, 2020 AT 3PM CST WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED.

Divisions

ELEMENTARY GRADES 3-5

SECONDARY GRADES 6-8

THIS IS AN INDEPENDENT CONTEST, NO GROUPS, PLEASE GO BY THE GRADE OF THE CHILD ON THE SUBMISSION DATE, FEBRUARY 14, 2020 AT 3PM CST.

Release Form

In order to participate in this contest, the student must follow this release agreement. This agreement can be kept on file with the student. By entering this contest, the student agrees:

The student participating in this contest does: hereby authorize the Gifted Association of Missouri to use, reproduce, and/or publish writings, drawings, photographs, and/or video that was created by me without compensation. The student understands this material may be used in GAM's publications, promotional materials, and website. The student understands that this material will be used to promote gifted education and/or the Gifted Association of Missouri. This authorization is continuous and may only be withdrawn by my specific rescission of this authorization. The student understands that GAM may publish my name and school information for the purposes of recognition of the material submitted to GAM for the various student contests.

***WINNERS WILL BE RECOGNIZED AND AWARDS WILL BE GIVEN AT GAM DAY
AT THE CAPITOL IN JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI
ON WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2020!***

**ALL CONTEST INFORMATION IS ON THE GAM WEBSITE: mogam.org
ALL CONTEST SUBMISSIONS AND QUESTIONS SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO:
Dr. Michael Dragoni, GAM Legislative Chairperson,
dragonim@ritenourschools.org**

**ALL SUBMISSIONS ARE ELECTRONIC ONLY AND SHARED ONLY AS A PDF
EMAIL ATTACHMENT! EMAIL FOR QUESTIONS AND SENDING LETTERS:
dragonim@ritenourschools.org**



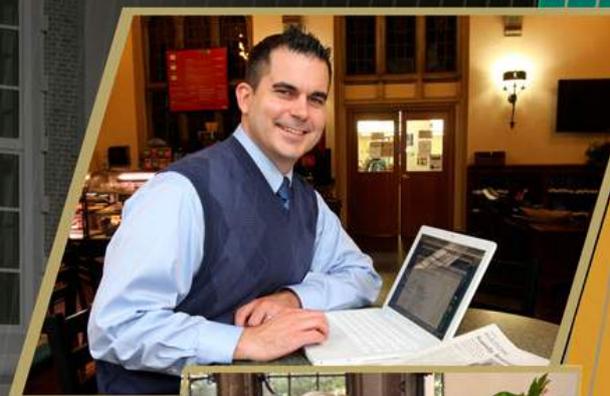
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- MA in Education Technology
- MA in Early Interventions in Autism and Sensory Impairments
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LINDENWOOD

GAM Day at the Capitol

Instructions for Students and Visitors

9:45 - Gather on the 4th floor to enter the Chambers to be recognized

10:00 - House and Senate Chambers - Introduction of students in House and Senate Gallery across from rooms 414 and 416

10:15 - Return to Rotunda

11:00 - 11:45 - Presentation of GAM contest awards and legislative briefing

12:00 - 2:00 - Visit with State Representative and State Senator (Please call your representative and senator beforehand to make an appointment. You can even invite them to eat lunch with you!

Additional Notes:

Security - Please plan for at least 30 minutes for security screenings and bag searches.

Buses - Typically drop students off at the west end of the Capitol. Currently the only security entrance open is on the south side.

Bills to Discuss: House Bill 1317 sponsored by Rep. Chrissy Sommer (R-St. Charles) and Senate Bill 645 sponsored by Senator Denny Hoskins (R-Warrensburg).



Make Your Summer Extraordinary



SCATS

June 7 - 19, 2020
wku.edu/gifted/scats

A two-week residential camp held in June, SCATS offers high-ability students who have finished grades 6–8 a unique learning environment to explore new ideas, develop concepts, make friends, and share experiences. Students arrive at the WKU campus to challenge themselves academically and to meet like-minded peers with diverse backgrounds and interests.



VAMPY

June 21 - July 11, 2020
wku.edu/gifted/vampy

A three-week residential camp held in June and July, VAMPY offers high-ability students who have finished grades 7–10 a rigorous educational environment that reminds students learning is an enjoyable process as they spend three weeks immersed in a topic of their choosing that ignites their curiosity.

The Advanced Placement Summer Institute



Ritenour High School, St. Louis | July 13 - 16, 2020 | wku.edu/gifted/ap
Pre-AP Institute | Bowling Green, KY | June 29 - July 2

Since 1984, The Center for Gifted Studies at WKU has assisted **more than 9,000 teachers** in better understanding the demands of AP classrooms and high-ability learners. In addition to offering an APSI at WKU, this year we will offer nine workshops at Ritenour High School in St. Louis, MO.

- College Board-Endorsed Workshops In —
- Biology
 - Calculus AB
 - English Language and Composition
 - English Literature and Composition
 - Psychology
 - Statistics
 - U.S. Government and Politics
 - U.S. History
 - World History



SEARCHING FOR WAYS TO SUPPORT ACADEMICALLY TALENTED STUDENTS?



Duke TIP can help!

TIP provides educators and parents with research-based resources to help support their gifted students. Our Talent Search helps high-ability students identify strengths, explore interests, and celebrate achievements. In the past year, we distributed over **\$4.1 million** in financial aid so that students from all economic backgrounds could participate in our programs. Visit tip.duke.edu to learn more.

Duke TIP



Current Gifted Education Bills Under Consideration

**House & Senate
Versions Included**

ACTION ALERT!

URGENT



**CONTACT YOUR
LEGISLATOR TODAY!**

**Look up your representative and senator at
<https://www.mo.gov/government/elected-officials/>**



HOUSE BILL NO. 1317

100TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE SOMMER.

3034H.02I

DANA RADEMAN MILLER, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

To repeal section 162.720, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof one new section relating to gifted children.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Section 162.720, RSMo, is repealed and one new section enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as section 162.720, to read as follows:

162.720. 1. ~~[Where a sufficient number of children]~~ **If three percent or more of students enrolled in a school district** are determined to be gifted and their development requires programs or services beyond the level of those ordinarily provided in regular public school programs, ~~[districts may establish special programs for such gifted children]~~ **the district shall establish a state-approved gifted program for gifted children.**

2. **The teacher or teachers providing gifted services to students in districts with an average daily attendance of more than three hundred fifty students shall be certificated in gifted education. In districts with an average daily attendance of three hundred fifty students or less, the teacher or teachers providing gifted services shall not be required to be certificated to teach gifted education, however such teachers shall annually participate in at least six clock hours of professional development focused on gifted services.**

3. The state board of education shall determine standards for such **gifted** programs and **gifted services**. Approval of ~~[such]~~ **gifted** programs shall be made by the state department of elementary and secondary education based upon project applications submitted ~~[by July fifteenth of each year]~~ **at a time and in a form determined by the department of elementary and secondary education.**

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

17 ~~[3-]~~ 4. No district shall make a determination as to whether a child is gifted based on the
18 child's participation in an advanced placement course or international baccalaureate course.
19 Districts shall determine a child is gifted only if the child meets the definition of gifted children
20 as provided in section 162.675.

21 ~~[4-]~~ 5. Any district with a gifted education program approved under subsection ~~[2]~~ 3 of
22 this section shall have a policy, approved by the board of education of the district, that
23 establishes a process that outlines the procedures and conditions under which parents or
24 guardians may request a review of the decision that determined that their child did not qualify
25 to receive services through the district's gifted education program.

26 ~~[5-]~~ 6. School districts and school district employees shall be immune from liability for
27 any and all acts or omissions relating to the decision that a child did not qualify to receive
28 services through the district's gifted education program.

29 **7. The department of elementary and secondary education may promulgate rules**
30 **to implement the provisions of this section. Any rule or portion of a rule, as that term is**
31 **defined in section 536.010, that is created under the authority delegated in this section shall**
32 **become effective only if it complies with and is subject to all of the provisions of chapter**
33 **536 and, if applicable, section 536.028. This section and chapter 536 are nonseverable, and**
34 **if any of the powers vested with the general assembly pursuant to chapter 536 to review,**
35 **to delay the effective date, or to disapprove and annul a rule are subsequently held**
36 **unconstitutional, then the grant of rulemaking authority and any rule proposed or adopted**
37 **after August 28, 2020, shall be invalid and void.**

✓

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

SENATE BILL NO. 645

100TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR HOSKINS.

Pre-filed December 1, 2019, and ordered printed.

ADRIANE D. CROUSE, Secretary.

3776S.011

AN ACT

To repeal section 162.720, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof one new section relating to gifted children.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Section 162.720, RSMo, is repealed and one new section enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as section 162.720, to read as follows:

162.720. 1. [Where a sufficient number of children] **If three percent or more of students enrolled in a school district** are determined to be gifted and their development requires programs or services beyond the level of those ordinarily provided in regular public school programs, [districts may establish special programs for such gifted children] **the district shall establish a state-approved gifted program for gifted children.**

2. **The teacher or teachers providing gifted services to students in districts with an average daily attendance of more than three hundred fifty students shall be certified by the department in gifted education. In districts with an average daily attendance of three hundred fifty students or less, the teacher or teachers providing gifted services shall not be required to be certificated to teach gifted education, however such teachers shall annually participate in at least six clock hours of professional development focused on gifted services.**

3. The state board of education shall determine standards for such **gifted programs and gifted services**. Approval of [such] **gifted** programs shall be made by the state department of elementary and secondary education based upon project applications submitted [by July fifteenth of each year] **at a time and in a form determined by the department of elementary and secondary**

EXPLANATION—Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in this bill is not enacted and is

20 **education.**

21 [3.] 4. No district shall make a determination as to whether a child is
22 gifted based on the child's participation in an advanced placement course or
23 international baccalaureate course. Districts shall determine a child is gifted
24 only if the child meets the definition of gifted children as provided in section
25 162.675.

26 [4.] 5. Any district with a gifted education program approved under
27 subsection [2] 3 of this section shall have a policy, approved by the board of
28 education of the district, that establishes a process that outlines the procedures
29 and conditions under which parents or guardians may request a review of the
30 decision that determined that their child did not qualify to receive services
31 through the district's gifted education program.

32 [5.] 6. School districts and school district employees shall be immune
33 from liability for any and all acts or omissions relating to the decision that a child
34 did not qualify to receive services through the district's gifted education program.

35 **7. The department of elementary and secondary education may**
36 **promulgate rules to implement the provisions of this section and may**
37 **develop a process to certify teachers in gifted education. Any rule or**
38 **portion of a rule, as that term is defined in section 536.010, that is**
39 **created under the authority delegated in this section shall become**
40 **effective only if it complies with and is subject to all of the provisions**
41 **of chapter 536 and, if applicable, section 536.028. This section and**
42 **chapter 536 are nonseverable, and if any of the powers vested with the**
43 **general assembly pursuant to chapter 536 to review, to delay the**
44 **effective date, or to disapprove and annul a rule are subsequently held**
45 **unconstitutional, then the grant of rulemaking authority and any rule**
46 **proposed or adopted after August 28, 2020, shall be invalid and void.**

✓



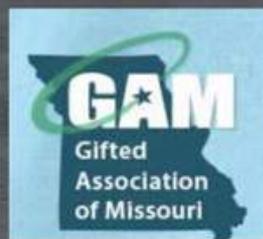
GIFTED PATHWAYS INSTITUTE WORKSHOP

REGISTER AT EVENTBRITE

bit.ly/gpiw2019



GAM DAY SPONSORS



Parents of
Academically
Gifted
Students

APRIL 4TH, 2020 9:00-11:30 AM

NORTHLAND INNOVATION CENTER

6889 North Oak Trafficway Gladstone, MO 64155



WELCOME TO THE GIFTED PATHWAYS INSTITUTE WORKSHOP

Gifted Parent Workshop

9:00-9:15 Visit Vendors

9:15 Welcome

9:20-10:00 Keynote-Dr. Richard Courtright:
The Gifted & Talented: Who They Are, What They
Need, and Why They Don't Have It

10:00-11:00 Parent Sessions

Session 1: Rita Barger: Working with Teachers to
Meet the Needs of Gifted Students

Session 2: Christine Nobbe: Launching Gifted
Learners towards Success with Design Thinking

11:00-11:30 Gifted Panel Q & A

Dr. Richard Courtright, Rita Barger,
Christine Nobbe, Melissa Torres

11:30 Closing

Gifted Student Workshops

Rotation 1: KC Chess Club

Rotation 2: Lego Robotics

Rotation 3: Art Studio: Expressive

Vendors

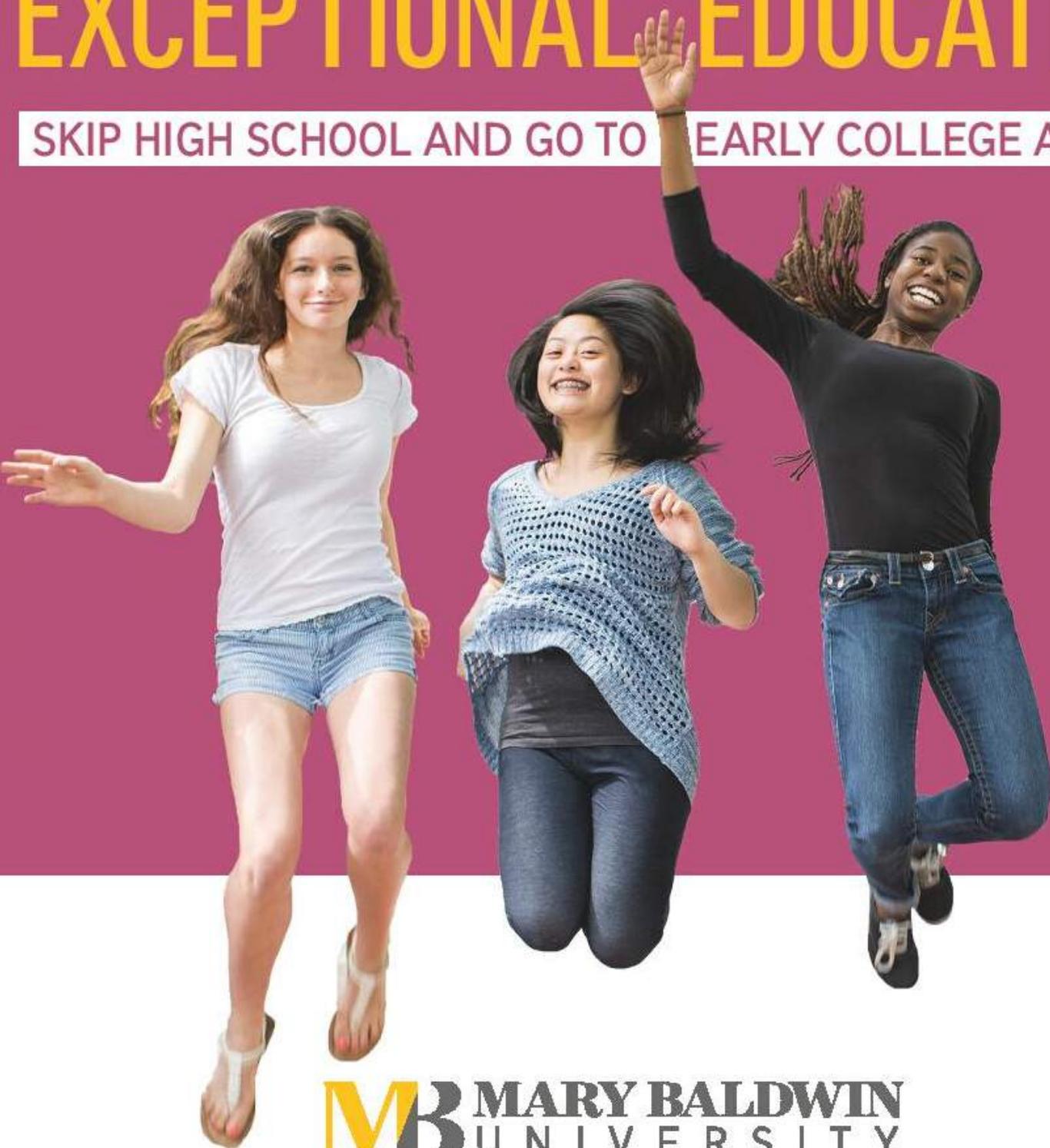
Orange Easel

Mid-Continent Public Library

College for Kids

EXCEPTIONALLY GIFTED GIRLS DESERVE AN EXCEPTIONAL EDUCATION.

SKIP HIGH SCHOOL AND GO TO EARLY COLLEGE AT MBU.



MB MARY BALDWIN
UNIVERSITY

The Vicky Bennett Distinguished Student Award is awarded to one student each year from Missouri. Recipients are given a \$250.00 scholarship along with a Certificate of Excellence by the Gifted Association of Missouri (GAM). Students selected for the award are between grades 3 and 6 and have distinguished themselves in academic achievement, leadership, and/or the arts.

Applications must be postmarked by May 1 to:

Gifted Association of Missouri
Executive Secretary - Vicky Bennett Award
P.O. Box 3252
Springfield, MO
65808

Vicky Bennett Distinguished Student Award

Nomination Deadline: May 1



**Sperreng Middle School
Library**

12111 Tesson Ferry Rd.

St. Louis, MO 63128

Open to all those interested in learning
more about giftedness and gifted educa-
tion

* Babysitting will be provided.

Lindbergh Schools and the Gifted Association of Missouri (Region 8) Present: Gifted Speaker Series

Monday, February 10, 2020—

***Christine Nobbe (Missouri State Director
of Gifted Education)—Why Gifted Education
is Important...***

**6:30 pm—7:30 pm
with a short
question and answer
session to follow**

Monday, March 2, 2020—Megan

***Margherio, NBCT (Gifted Coordinator,
School District of Clayton, Gifted
Specialist , Wydown Middle School) —
Emotional Explosions: Strategies for Families***

Monday, April 6, 2020—Dr. Emily

***Kircher-Morris (Counselor for Unlimited
Potential and Mind Matters Podcaster)—
Supporting Executive Function Skills with
Gifted Students***



A Most Welcome Change

Ms. Jerra Gillespie

I watched as the students thought out loud, buzzing with ideas, discussing possible solutions for building a ship with only the given materials. All my time teaching in Florida this is what I envisioned a gifted program should look like. During my teaching career in Florida I taught many different subjects and grade levels; for 10 years I was the gifted coordinator for the middle school where I taught. This was a frustrating position because teachers and administrators were uneducated about gifted students, and honestly, not really interested in learning how to best meet their needs. There were no true gifted programs; in fact it was more of a “keep us legal” mentality and the students were placed in classes based on their standardized test scores with no enrichment opportunities. As a result, many gifted students were misunderstood and teachers actually said to me, “Are you sure they are gifted? I see no signs they are smart”. I provided research based data, articles on gifted education, and designed a gifted program, all of which fell on deaf ears.

When I was offered a job at Phelps Center for Gifted Education in Springfield Missouri, I didn't know what to expect. The difference between my Florida experience and my Missouri experience is astonishing, to be frank. Springfield Public School System offers a variety of programs throughout the district that are a benefit to gifted students. Phelps specifically offers gifted students everything we know they need to be successful. Affective education, thinking skills, and a choice of what they get to learn. The teachers are well-trained to support the needs of gifted students, not only academically, but emotionally as well. The teachers are passionate and work to understand the varying needs of





GAM District Reports

District 1 - Planning to hold a mini-conference in August.

District 2 - Dr. Richard Courtright will be providing a workshop this spring.

District 3 - Holding the "Gifted Pathways Institute Workshop" on April 4th at the Northland Innovation Center. Speakers, parent sessions, student sessions, and vendor exhibitions will all be provided.

District 4 - No report at this time.

District 5 - Will be partnering with District 3 to hold the Gifted Pathways Institute Workshop.

District 6 - Developing a Facebook page and planning a guest speaker.

District 7 - Working with District 6 to plan a combined conference on March 30th in Joplin, MO.

District 8 - Hosting a mini-conference in Lindbergh on March 7th with several presenters for teachers and parents. Also developing a speaker series for throughout the year.

District 9 - Reaching out to gifted program educators and trying to make connections and collect feedback.

Contact your District Directors to get involved! Their emails can be found at: <http://www.mogam.org/gam-board-members.html>



**Submit an Article
for the next GAMbit!
We would love to hear from you!**

**Please submit all articles and
advertisements to
pagnani@ucmo.edu
by April 15, 2020**

See you in the Spring!

