



# THE GAMBIT

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE  
GIFTED ASSOCIATION OF MISSOURI

SUMMER 2020



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# LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT SUMMER 2020



## **Dear GAM members:**

I hope this GAMbit finds you healthy and happy. Even though Covid-19 has turned all of our lives upside down, the board members of the Gifted Association have been working diligently to support the gifted students in our state through a number of changes and events.

## **Important!--Renew your membership**

One problem that we know Covid-19 is already causing and will continue to cause is tight school budgets. With the cuts that are expected to school funding during the upcoming years, the legislative work of the Gifted Association will be even more important. We know from history that gifted programs tend to be an early item on the chopping block when budgets get tight. Your membership is important in that it both funds the work of the Gifted Association of Missouri, but it also adds more voice to our message.

## **GAM Fall Conference is going digital!**

I know that I look forward to the Conference on Gifted Education every year. It is a time when I get to talk with all the friends and colleagues that I have made through my journey in gifted education. Those members whom I have gotten to know through the Gifted Association of Missouri have been my support and a resource as I have worked to make my gifted classroom the best I can.

Every year I walk out of the conference exhausted and energized at the same time. I am always ready to get back to my classroom to apply the new tools and the new information that I learned. It was with heavy hearts that we as the GAM board decided to switch the conference from an in-person conference to a digital one. We hope to still provide you with a energizing experience.

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# LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

SUMMER 2020 PAGE 2



As we have been working to organize this newly styled event, my excitement for the event has been growing. The board's plan is that our event will be a one day conference and it will be a combination of live and pre-recorded sessions.

We are planning to record the live presentations and for later availability to all our attendees. Even if you cannot attend the day of the conference, your conference registration will allow you to experience the whole conference! Another positive aspect of this new online conference format is that you won't have to choose between great sessions! In the past, you were limited to the one session per session block. This year, you will be able to access all the conference sessions from the date of the conference (October 24) through December 31st! You can experience the sessions when you have time.

Another exciting aspect of our conference is our keynote speaker, Colin Seale (author of *Thinking Like a Lawyer: A Framework for Teaching Critical Thinking to All Students* and founder of ThinkLaw). This spring, I had the opportunity to experience a energizing presentation of his.

During the session he wore a t-shirt that epitomizes his book message, "Don't raise your voice, improve your argument." I am looking forward to learning more from him at our conference and utilizing that information in my classroom. You can find our more about him on our Conference page under the Events tab at [www.mogam.org](http://www.mogam.org).

## **GAM Chats**

The final event that I would like to share with you is our recently organized GAM Chat via Zoom. We have upcoming chats scheduled for Thursday, August 6 and Thursday, August 13 at 7:00 PM Central Time. These digital meetings have the goal of giving members an opportunity to discuss challenges in the upcoming school year and brainstorm potential solutions. Head to our website ([www.mogam.org](http://www.mogam.org)) under the Events tabs to find the registration.

Stay safe and healthy!  
Peggy Pennington  
GAM President

**Christine Nobbe**  
**Director, Gifted Education**  
[Christine.Nobbe@dese.mo.gov](mailto:Christine.Nobbe@dese.mo.gov)  
573.751.7754



**Greetings from Missouri**  
**Department of Elementary and**  
**Secondary Education Gifted**  
**Education!**

I wrote my last column in April while sheltering at home. It is now July 17, 2020 and I am working at the office two days a week (Tuesdays and Fridays) and from home the other three days. Since my last column I have worked on numerous projects:

- One project, not related to gifted education and very time consuming, was the Pandemic-EBT project. About 60 DESE employees tackled the P-EBT project to determine if 100,000+ applicants were eligible for free or reduced lunch to receive EBT benefits.
- The Advisory Council on the Education of Gifted and Talented (the Council) was very busy due to the COVID-19 pandemic and I supported their efforts. The Council met four times between April 10 and July 16 and created four new documents. Three documents are on the website for you to use: [The Need for Ongoing and Sustained Professional Development for General Education Teachers and Gifted Education Specialists on Meeting the Needs of Gifted Learners](#), [Providing Services for Missouri's Gifted Learners during the COVID-19 Pandemic](#), and [Identifying Gifted Learners during the COVID-19 Pandemic](#).
- I created two COVID-19 related resources: [Summer Online Programs for Gifted Learners](#) and [Distance and eLearning Resources for Gifted Education](#).
- Through May 28<sup>th</sup>, I ran two Zoom meetings per week for gifted education specialists. I loved every minute of those meetings! We discussed many topics, met new friends, and learned a lot.
- In June and July, once school was out, I started running Zoom meetings for educational professionals who oversee gifted

- programs – teacher-leaders, coordinators, and administrators. These turned out to be extremely helpful as we are all trying to figure out how school will look in 2020-2021.
- Many organizations ran online virtual webinars this spring and summer and I participated in as many as I could on social-emotional learning, social justice, gifted education, distance learning, UbD, PBL, and STEAM.
  - I was the guest speaker (via Zoom) for the Gifted Support Network on May 20<sup>th</sup>, which was very well attended by parents. (I invite you to schedule an event with me!)
  - June brought summer professional development (you can access the files we used via [Google Classroom](#)):
    - MO-GLOs
    - SEL (see additional GAMbit articles)
    - GECC
    - Gifted Education for Admin
    - Equitable Identification
    - Moving Forward
  - I volunteered to participate in two organizations for the next two years as the Treasurer for the Council of State Directors of Programs for the Gifted (CSDPG) and on the Missouri Green Schools Committee.
  - I was an observer on the Task Force for Learning Acceleration. The outcomes from this large task force can be found [here](#). I am pleased that gifted students and programs are included in these documents.
  - I continue to meet with districts via Zoom, answer phone calls, and respond to emails.

At this writing, I am looking forward to the virtual New Teachers Workshop, the fall GAM conference, and first semester 2020 professional development – Gifted and Talented Tuesdays. Please look for the flier in the GAMbit and on the DESE Gifted Education website: <https://dese.mo.gov/quality-schools/gifted-education>.

I invite you to keep up with MO gifted education via the [Gifted Ed listserv](#). Enjoy the rest of the summer and stay safe! – Christine

All links can be found at  
<https://dese.mo.gov/quality-schools/gifted-education>

# 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 (June 1–July 2, 2021)

**ED 609G** – Teaching Internship (March 3–May 5, 2021)

**ED 650G** – Identification of Gifted (July 6–August 6, 2021)

**ED 651G** – Curriculum for Gifted (August 23–December 17, 2021)

**ED 652G** – Meeting Affective Needs of Gifted Children (June 1–July 2, 2021)

**ED 653G** – Programming, Planning, and Development: Administration and Supervision of Gifted Programs (July 6–August 6, 2021)

### **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 if you have not met the teaching requirements. Most teachers completed the Psychology course and a research course during their initial teaching certification, which typically meets these requirements. Truman offers these courses if you need them. The internship is offered spring semesters in the second block.

**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](mailto:institute@truman.edu)

WEB: [pd.truman.edu/gifted](http://pd.truman.edu/gifted)

# LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

KYNA IMAN

GAM'S ADVOCACY EFFORTS NEVER END!!

During the 2020 election cycle, 163 of the State House of Representative seats and 18 of the State Senate seats will be up for election on November 3. Over a third of the House seats are “open” seats and will elect new, first-time legislators to office. While several of the candidates running for office are teachers, I would guess that they are not experts – LIKE YOU – regarding gifted educational needs.

That's why GAM's advocacy work is ongoing. There are always new legislators to “educate” on the importance of providing programs and services for gifted students in Missouri.

Rep. Chrissy Sommers has championed and

sponsored legislation to require every school district to provide gifted services. Rep. Judy Morgan was a House Co-Sponsor of the legislation. While we were one vote away in the Senate from passing the gifted mandate last session, we will be losing both Rep. Sommers and Rep. Morgan to term-limits. Another strong Representative leader for gifted education who is also term-limited is Rep. Donna Pfautsch, who sponsored and passed legislation to require acceleration policies for school districts.

GAM and the gifted education community owes these leaders a tremendous amount of gratitude for their service in the House of Representatives. They will be greatly missed.

Not only is GAM's advocacy work never done with educating new incoming legislators, we also need to continue to nurture and grow and support those who support gifted education to become strong leaders for us as they are re-elected.

GAM has been successful with our advocacy efforts, but there is much work to be done! Our students need your voice! Lend your voice in helping persuade policy makers that Missourians care about gifted children and gifted education. By advocating, YOU – the EXPERT IN GIFTED EDUCATION – can make a difference in the life and education of our gifted students.





## 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

### 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)

### SUMMER SEMESTER 2021

- 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)
- Differentiating Instruction: Reaching Gifted, Typical and Struggling Learners (SPC\_ED 8406)
- Administration and Supervision of Gifted Programs (SPC\_ED 8410)

# GIFTED AND TALENTED TUESDAYS

More information: [Christine.Nobbe@dese.mo.gov](mailto:Christine.Nobbe@dese.mo.gov)

## ZOOM EVENTS FOR STUDENTS, TEACHERS, AND COORDINATORS/ADMINISTRATORS

Tuesdays beginning September 1, 2020

*You are invited to join Missouri's gifted and talented community for discussion and inspiration every Tuesday, September – December, 2020.*



\*\*\*

**First Tuesdays, 10:00 – 10:30 AM w/ Q/A at 10:30 – Space Exploration Talks for Gifted Learners of All Ages**

- September 1 – Travel the Universe
- October 6 – Return to the Moon...to stay!
- November 3 – America in Space (Election Day)
- December 1 – Holidays in Space

HIDE NOT YOUR TALENTS.

THEY FOR USE WERE MADE.

WHAT'S A SUNDIAL IN THE SHADE?

– BENJAMIN FRANKLIN

**Second Tuesdays, 9:30 – 11:00 (Open House style, drop by anytime to discuss current issues) – Coordinating MO Gifted Education Programs for Coordinators, Directors, Principals, and Central Office Administrators**

- September 8
- October 13
- November 10
- December 8

**Third Tuesdays, 3:30 – 4:30 PM – Gifted Education Topics for Gifted Education Specialists and Friends of Gifted Education**

- September 15 – Social Emotional Learning
- October 20 – Equity and Gifted Education
- November 17 – Curriculum and Instruction
- December 15 – Creativity

**Fourth and Fifth Tuesdays, 3:30 – 4:30 – Book Club Discussions for All Members of G/T Community**

- September 22, 29, and October 27 - *Thinking Like a Lawyer: A Framework for Teaching Critical Thinking to All Students* by Colin Seale (no meetings planned in November or December due to holidays)

## ZOOM INFORMATION

Zoom Meeting Link (this is the same for every Gifted and Talented Tuesday meeting):

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87240819146?pwd=dWdHRGkyLzJwNU5wRE5HclZpVmtHZz09>

Meeting ID: 872 4081 9146 Password: 233755

One tap mobile:

+13126266799,,87240819146#,,,,0#,,233755# US (Chicago)

+19292056099,,87240819146#,,,,0#,,233755# US (New York)

# What if we could...?

- ❖ Teach all students a **systematic method** to **solve problems**?
- ❖ **Improve** students' **creativity, collaboration, communication**, and **CRITICAL THINKING**?
- ❖ **Empower** students to offer **solutions** to **community problems**?
- ❖ Provide **structure** to guide students in **problem-based learning**?
- ❖ **Interact** with students from other **states and countries**?
- ❖ Encourage students to **research** and **thoughtfully consider future** concerns?

## We can through Future Problem Solving!

Missouri Future Problem Solving Program

Janet Fite – Affiliate Director [janetfite@mofps.org](mailto:janetfite@mofps.org)

[www.mofps.org](http://www.mofps.org)

[www.fpspi.org](http://www.fpspi.org)



### AN EXTRAORDINARY EXPERIENCE FOR EXCEPTIONAL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

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 like-minded peers on the innovative and friendly FHSU campus.

#### STUDENTS IN THE PROGRAM:

- Earn a high school diploma while completing 60+ hours of college credit
- Engage in hands-on research opportunities with PhD-level faculty.
- Develop leadership skills while experiencing unique civic and co-curricular opportunities.

Discover the opportunities at [www.fhsu.edu/ams](http://www.fhsu.edu/ams)



FORT HAYS STATE UNIVERSITY  
ACADEMY OF MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE

785-628-4690  
[ams@fhsu.edu](mailto:ams@fhsu.edu)  
[www.fhsu.edu/ams](http://www.fhsu.edu/ams)

# Social Emotional Learning for Missouri's Gifted Students

## The Project

During the summer of 2020, gifted education specialists participated in a statewide Social Emotional Learning (SEL) curriculum writing project led by representatives from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, the Gifted Association of Missouri, and Lindenwood University. Over twenty teachers from across the state worked together to create social emotional learning experiences for gifted students over the course of three weeks. These lessons are part of an [online repository](#) that are accessible to teachers throughout the state and beyond. Our hope is that the repository will continue to grow as other teachers become involved in the project.

Additionally, during this professional development, teachers received training on various components of SEL including class meetings, Zone of Regulation, and bibliotherapy. The PD consisted of nine hours of whole group professional development (via Zoom meetings); along with several hours of “off-site” work completed both independently and in collaboration with assigned SEL strand teams. All and all, each participant contributed at least two fully vetted lessons in one of the following strands: Self Awareness, Mindsets, Social Capacity, Life Skills, and Emotional Well-being.

Dr. Tracy Bednarick, Gifted Coordinator of Lindbergh Schools and Gifted Association of Missouri Region 8 Co-director, was the leader of this effort. The leadership team included Christine Nobbe, Director of Gifted Education at DESE; Hannah Noack-Ruebling, gifted education specialist and GAM Region 8 Co-director; Richelle Moore, Kirkwood gifted education specialist; and Dr. Mary Gismegian, Assistant Professor at Lindenwood University.

## Directions to Access the Missouri Gifted Social Emotional Learning Curriculum Repository

Missouri gifted education specialists collaborated to create a repository of Social Emotional Learning (SEL) lessons for gifted learners. The repository can be found on AirTable, a searchable database.

- To complete a Quick Search by Main Topic go to: <https://airtable.com/shrttDsrvjKf73vuA>.
- To complete a Full Search go to: <https://airtable.com/shrBDwi2DDaYHuqre>. You may search by grade level, author, and additional key words.

As of July 8<sup>th</sup>, 53 SEL lessons were available. Take a look and see what fits your scope and sequence!

The repository was carefully designed to be a “living” collection of SEL lessons. The MO Gifted SEL Leadership team decided on five strands: Self Awareness, Mindsets, Social Capacity, Life Skills, and Emotional Well-being. In addition, sub-topics were determined for each strand, as shown in the chart below. A review team of volunteer gifted education specialists is on hand to review lessons submitted. If you have an original lesson covering one of the topics, you may submit it. First, access the [Understanding by Design template](#), complete it, and get feedback from a colleague. Then submit it to the SEL review team via AirTable: <https://airtable.com/shr8rtYytFZKdLwjp>. Please direct questions about submitting lessons to [mogiftedsel@gmail.com](mailto:mogiftedsel@gmail.com).

Missouri Gifted Social Emotional Learning Strands and Subtopics

Self Awareness	Mindsets	Social Capacity	Life Success Skills	Emotional Well-being
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• traits of a gifted learner</li> <li>• gift recognition (by self, peers, adults)</li> <li>• personality styles (introvert/extrovert, 5 factors, etc.)</li> <li>• learning styles</li> <li>• self-advocacy</li> <li>• self-evaluation</li> <li>• self-efficacy</li> <li>• self-esteem (critical self-talk)</li> <li>• asynchrony</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• fixed and growth mindsets</li> <li>• fear of failure and risk-taking</li> <li>• perfectionism (functional and dysfunctional)</li> <li>• autonomy and self-resiliency (perseverance)</li> <li>• goal setting (finding realistic goals, succeeding, SMART goals)</li> <li>• openness and acceptance (of learning environments, of differences, including marginalized gifted populations such as LGBTQ, people of color, twice exceptional, etc.)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• relationships, friendship and peer pressure</li> <li>• communication</li> <li>• conflict resolution skills</li> <li>• debate (building and defending arguments)</li> <li>• mentorship (older students, adults, professionals)</li> <li>• collaboration</li> <li>• justice (including marginalized gifted populations such as LGBTQ, people of color, twice exceptional, etc.)</li> <li>• equity</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• time management and organization</li> <li>• focus (techniques and practice)</li> <li>• resources (evaluating, utilizing, citing)</li> <li>• note-taking and researching (summarizing, mapping, outlining, etc.)</li> <li>• Interviewing</li> <li>• thesis development</li> <li>• data gathering (surveys, testing, charts and graphs)</li> <li>• media literacy</li> <li>• information processing</li> <li>• technology skills</li> <li>• leadership skills</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• anxiety, worry, and stress (relaxation, meditation, mindfulness)</li> <li>• boredom and under achievement</li> <li>• intensity (overexcitabilities- psychomotor, sensual, intellectual, imaginal, emotional; sense of right and wrong)</li> <li>• coping strategies (trauma, grief, loss, burnout, self-compassion)</li> <li>• the value of quiet (developing thoughtfulness and creativity)</li> </ul>

# SEARCHING FOR WAYS TO SUPPORT ACADEMICALLY TALENTED STUDENTS?



## **Duke TIP can help!**

We're a nonprofit organization that's part of Duke University and we've been helping academically talented students, their families, and their teachers since 1980. Visit [tip.duke.edu](http://tip.duke.edu) to learn about our mission of improving the state of gifted education for all students everywhere—and to see the premium benefits that students receive when they join Duke TIP.

# Duke **TiP**

GIFTED ASSOCIATION OF MISSOURI

# CONFERENCE ON GIFTED EDUCATION

October 24, 2020  
Saturday Live Sessions

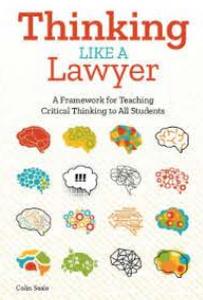
The 2020 GAM Conference on gifted education is going virtual! Join us Saturday, October 24 for a series of live sessions and pre-recorded sessions. All session videos will be available to view until December 31, 2020.



## Keynote Speaker: Colin Seale

- Author of **Thinking Like a Lawyer: A Framework for Teaching Critical Thinking to All Students**
- Founder and CEO of ThinkLaw

Colin Seale was born and raised in Brooklyn, NY, where struggles in his upbringing gave birth to his passion for educational equity. Tracked early into gifted and talented programs, Colin was afforded opportunities his neighborhood peers were not.



Using lessons from his experience as a math teacher, later an attorney and now a keynote speaker, contributor to Forbes, The 74, and Education Post and author of *Thinking Like a Lawyer: A Framework for Teaching Critical Thinking to All Students* (Prufrock Press, 2020), Colin founded thinkLaw, a multi-award-winning organization to help educators leverage inquiry-based instructional strategies to close the critical thinking gap and ensure they teach and REACH all students, regardless of race, zip code or what side of the poverty line they are born into.

## Join Us!

Go to  
[www.mogam.org](http://www.mogam.org)  
for more  
information.

Join Us!  
Educate.  
Advocate.  
Connect.



Join or renew your membership today!  
Your voice is needed.

[www.mogam.org](http://www.mogam.org)

# GAM SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS



Due to the Covid-19 pandemic and its effect on schools, we will be postponing nominations for GAM Scholarships and Awards. Please watch for updates.

# GAM NEW TEACHER WORKSHOP JULY 27 & 28, 2020

*"What if Mozart grew up in an environment without a piano?"  
Dr. Rick Courtright*

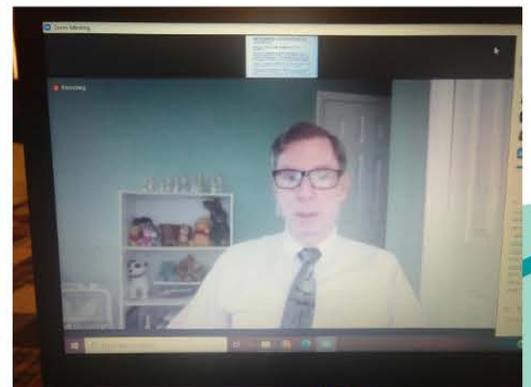
"What if Mozart grew up in an environment without a piano?" This was the question that was posed by Dr. Rick Courtright during the first ever online New Teacher Workshop held this July. He shared the importance of gifted programs in creating an environment for gifted students that can help them develop their talents. "We are the life changers." Dr. Courtright shared his question to the 14 teachers attending the workshop from the comfort of their homes throughout the state. Dr. Courtright further discussed both the historical and more current theories behind giftedness which affect identification practices throughout the United States.

Each year the Gifted Association of Missouri organizes and presents a New Teacher Workshop to prepare new teachers of gifted for their classrooms. Most of those attending the workshop typically are preparing for or ending their first year in the gifted classroom. Gifted programs can vary as one travels through the state due to differences in district sizes.

Some programs in rural areas utilize one gifted teacher who services all levels of students. These teachers also tend to be heavily involved in the identification process. At the other end of the spectrum are the larger school districts in metropolitan areas that may have dozens of teachers and a staff specifically for managing the program including identification of new students.

The goal of the workshop is to provide the participants with tools like curriculum units based on student age, problem solving and creativity activities, and knowledge about program standards that can be utilized as they write their own curriculum. Connecting new gifted teachers with experienced colleagues is also a positive part of the workshop.

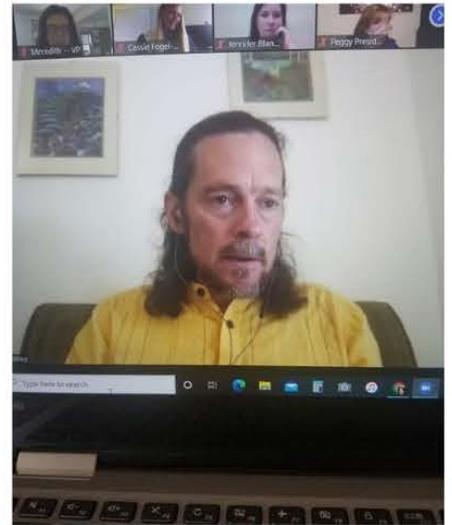
**Dr. Rick  
Courtright**



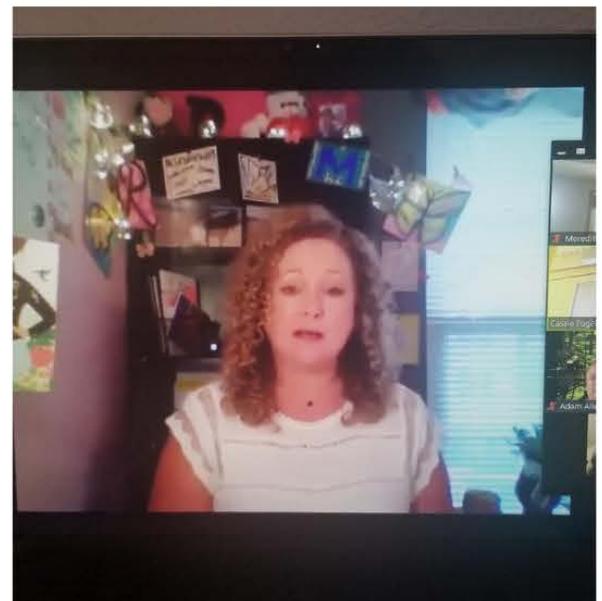
# GAM NEW TEACHER WORKSHOP PAGE 2

This year's workshop was scheduled to be held at the Northland Innovation Center in the North Kansas City School District, but due to Covid-19, the event was switched to an online workshop. Participants spent two days in a digital classroom interacting with GAM Board members and special guest presenters including Dr. Rick Courtright, Dr. Kris Wiley, former GAM President Dr. Robin Lady, and Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Gifted Education Director, Christine Nobbe.

New Teacher Workshop participants are being invited this year for the first time to also participate in 4 additional digital meetings throughout the year. This cohort will provide support throughout the year to the new teachers and give them the opportunity to share their experiences and continue to learn together. They will also be able to access curriculum and resources provided by the presenters in a shared drive.

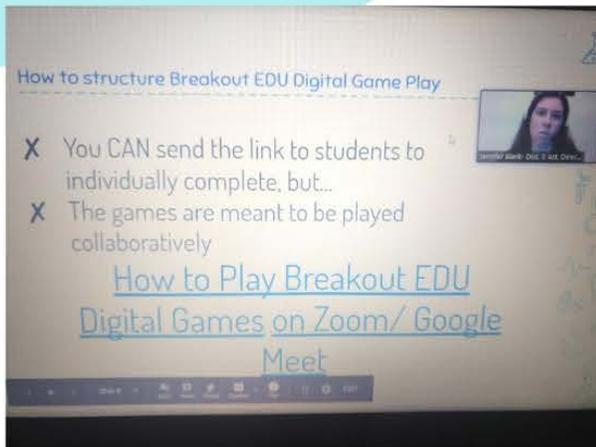


**Dr. Kris Wiley shares his interactive presentation about writing strong curriculum that is substantially different from the regular classroom.**

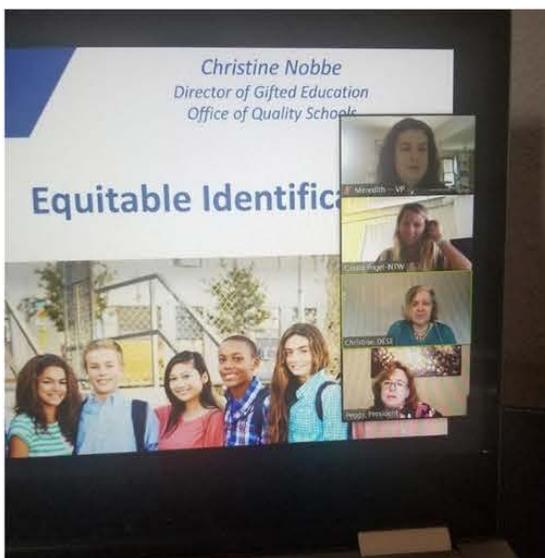


**Dr. Robin Lady joined the session in a recorded message inspiring attending teachers to understand their importance in the educational lives of the gifted students they serve.**

# GAM NEW TEACHER WORKSHOP PAGE 3



**Jennifer Blank shares problem-solving skill building through Breakout EDU.**



**Christine Nobbe shares information on equitable identification procedures.**



**Dr. Tracy Bednarick shares the recent Social Emotional Learning gifted curriculum resources available on the GAM website ([www.mogam.org](http://www.mogam.org)) and DESE's Gifted Page at <https://dese.mo.gov/sites/default/files/qs-ge-Social-Emotional-Learning-for-Gifted.pdf>.**



**Jennifer Hawkins shares ideas for creativity activities and class starters.**

# GAM Chats

**Thursdays at 7:00 PM**

**July 30, August 6, August 13**

**Special Event for GAM Members  
with current memberships**



As school districts move to reopen schools for the 2020-2021 school year, they are facing a wide variety of challenges. With this trio of Zoom meetings, we are hoping to give GAM members the opportunity to discuss and collaborate in small groups challenges that are being faced and potential solutions to those problems. Heads together always think better.

Format: The meeting will start with a large group and we will move to breakout rooms based on how your school district is reopening: in person, hybrid, or distance. If we have enough attendees, we may break further into groups of large districts and small districts. We will finish as a large group with reporting from each of the groups.

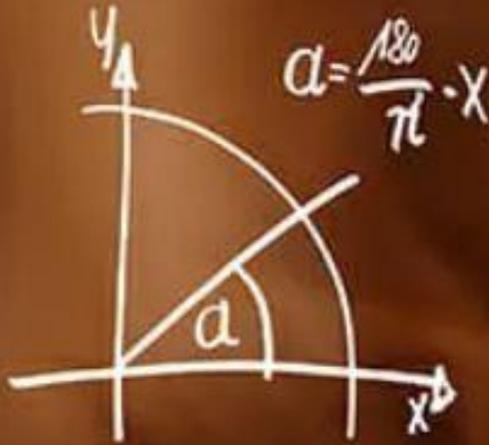
We know that this school year is causing apprehension and worry for many, but we are asking participants to come to this meeting with a growth/problem-solving mindset.

**Join us for great  
discussions!**

SOMEWHERE,  
SOMETHING  
INCREDIBLE IS  
WAITING TO  
BE KNOWN.

CARL SAGAN

$$\frac{-4ac}{a}$$



$$X_{1/2} = -\frac{p}{2} \pm \sqrt{\left(\frac{p}{2}\right)^2 - q}$$

$-2y$   
 $= b$   
 $) = \tan x$

$$f(x) = \sin x$$

# EDITOR'S NOTE

*Written By: Alex Pagnani*



*The fall issue of The GAMbit is traditionally our largest and most widely read publication. We would love to have you submit an article detailing your experiences, lesson plans, student activities, student accomplishments, or lessons that you have learned when it comes to teaching gifted learners in this challenging time. Please consider submitting a short piece for consideration. They can be submitted to me via email at [pagnani@ucmo.edu](mailto:pagnani@ucmo.edu)*