

Giddings GT News

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Fall 2023

Dear Families of GISD Gifted and Talented Students,

Welcome back to a new school year! We are so excited to be working with you to help our Gifted and Talented students grow! When your child is identified as Gifted and Talented they are entitled to receive services that are different than regular education. The Giddings Independent School District is committed to providing an appropriate education for all children, to developing and educating each student's ability to excel to his/her potential, and to achieving equity and quality in district services. The district will help to develop each student's individual gifts and talents through differentiated instructional provisions that are aligned with and enrich the regular classroom curriculum.

.. Please contact the GT website <https://www.giddingsisd.net/o/giddings-isd/page/gifted-talented-program-7> for more information.

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WEBINAR FOR PARENTS:

Date & Time Sep 12, 2023 06:30 PM in [Central Time](#)

Description Join us for the TAGT Fall webinar designed specifically for parents of gifted students. In this session, attendees will delve into the critical topic of mental health challenges students face and the significance of fostering connections and relationships in their lives. [Register Here](#)

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_w7h1L_WQSOG436bSbVrUVw#/registration

There are lots of free GT parenting webinars recorded at <https://tempo.txgifted.org/>

Families of GT students statewide are invited to join a new network for Texas GT families! The Gifted Education Family Network (GEFN) is a new opportunity for GT families to receive support, information, and connections with other families, facilitating positive advocacy for Texas GT programs, GT funding, and excellence in gifted education. GEFN is committed to equity and diversity in gifted education. GT parents from all regions of Texas are invited to join us for free, to subscribe to our e-mail news <https://giftededucationfamilynetwork.org/> to explore our website, and to follow us on social media (please visit our site for Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram links: <https://giftededucationfamilynetwork.org/>).

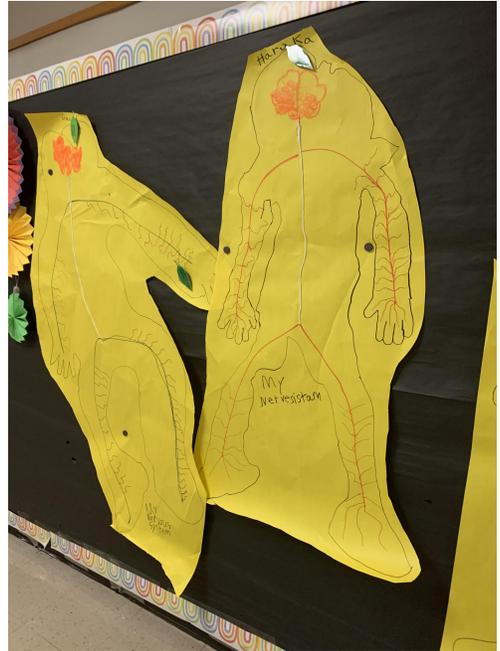
Elementary- We will be exploring our brains! How they work, the science behind memory and how to protect them. We have created models of the nervous system and experiments on brains.

Intermediate Working on Word Wrangler essays and then we will be covering neuroscience. We will be doing a project on how brain trauma/neurological diseases

6th Grade While Mrs. Walther is on maternity leave, Mrs. Kuck is our sub. We have created infographics for our summer book project and will be learning about metacognition.

7th Grade Mrs. Kieschnick is leading this class in learning about the 7 Wonders of the Ancient World

8th Grade After completing the Word Wrangler essays, Ms. Crum will be starting Brain Maps. It's like a brainstorming web, but that describes the individual's interests and thought process. This will tie into learning about study skills and classroom strategies



GHS First Lunch and Learn is Wednesday September 6, 2023 in Room. Lunch is provided. Topic: Getting organized for a great school year.

Do We Understand Why Gifted Kids Are Often Organizationally Challenged?

Parents often ask how they can help their child develop organizational and self-regulation skills. Among the reasons for this is that gifted kids have good memories and, for a while, are able to rely on remembering where they saw something last. In addition, they have so many interests and so many things going on at once that their lives simply spin out of control. Also, gifted individuals are typically internally motivated and resist all external efforts to get them to conform to anyone else's ideas of how they should live their lives. Furthermore, they generally are unaware of the knowledge and/or lack the skills that would help them be more organized.

Do Use Color-Coding -Encourage kids to use different colored notebooks, folders, index cards, markers or stickers for different categories of things they need to keep track of in their lives. Kids need to figure out what these categories might be and decide which colors should be used for which. Some kind of chart or "key" can be posted on the wall of their room or in some other convenient location, such as the kitchen, bathroom or inside their locker door at school. They should decide whether/where the chart should be posted.

Do Recognize How Timers And Alarms Can Be Helpful-Use a wind-up or electronic timer to keep track of when it is time to change activities, quit doing whatever they are doing or for whatever purpose they think might be most useful for them. Some kids like to play "beat the clock" by setting a timer for doing some of their least favorite chores or tasks, and seeing if they can finish before the timer goes off.

When using timers, set a "trial run" for a week. Then, talk about how it is working and/or what modifications they might want to implement to make this work better for them. Give kids an alarm watch and teach them how to set it. Then, they can brainstorm some of the situations in which it might be useful to have it go off to remind them of what they need to do at a particular time and then make a list of the ones they want to use. They also can decide how much of an advance warning they need. Just as with using a timer, it is a good idea to set a trial run for a week and talk with kids about how it is working and/or what they might like to change.

Do Purchase An Appointment Book, Agenda Or Calendar Some kids like to have a hands-on calendar for all of their activities and appointments. Kids can also use it for notes about things to do, addresses and other things they want to remember. An appointment

book can either be one they carry with them or the kind that hangs on the wall. Gifted students typically have jam-packed schedules, and having a system for them to keep track of what they are supposed to be doing is essential for helping them manage their lives.

In addition, post a master calendar in a prominent place, such as on the door of the refrigerator. Teachers who post a master calendar for the entire class can help those students who are organizationally challenged without calling undue attention to them as individuals.

Do Employ Technology- Most gifted kids love using technology and are good at doing so. Smartphones, iPads/tablets and computers can be synced with each other or used independently as “stand alone” devices. There are several ways that kids can organize their lives using technology:

- Electronic signals. Use along the same lines as timers and alarm watches for reminders/alerts
- Calendar functions. Keep track of dates on a Smartphone, tablet and/or computer. This is especially good for appointments, due dates and other calendar events, with reminders as far ahead of time as kids would like to be reminded of each.
- Contacts. Phone numbers and addresses (email and snail mail) can all be kept electronically, and the devices all have search functions that make the information easy to find.
- Notes and reminders. Notes, to do's and all kinds of miscellaneous information that would get lost if it were on scraps of paper can be kept electronically. These items also can be color-coded using whatever system kids find most useful for their purposes.
- Podcasts. An unbelievable assortment of useful information is available free for downloading as podcasts. These can be accessed directly on the computer or on a smartphone, iPod, iPad or other tablet for mobile listening whenever and wherever might be most convenient.

YOU KNOW YOUR CHILD IS GIFTED WHEN...



He knows everything there is to know about giraffes...and chess, and Top 40 music, and Humphrey Bogart movies.

Giddings ISD

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