



September 2013 Newsletter

CASE for Gifted Children

Support Organization for
 CCISD Gifted Students, Families and Educators
www.CASEGiftedChildren.org
CASE_gifted_children@yahoo.com

JOIN TODAY!

Join CASE by Oct. 1, 2013 and 100% of your dues will go toward *teacher scholarships for the TAGT conference in Houston!*
 Please use the membership form on the last page to renew or sign up.

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Lunch anyone?



ELEMENTARY PARENT LUNCH SOCIAL

Friday, October 11, 11:30 AM @La Brisa Mexican Grill
501 N Wesley Dr, League City, TX (I-45 N feeder just N of 518)

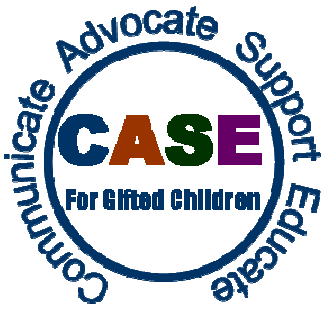
Welcome back to a new school year! What are topics of interest to you in the coming year?
 Meet other parents and CASE officers at an informal luncheon to give your input.

SECONDARY PARENT LUNCH SOCIAL

Thursday, October 17, 11:30 AM @Savannah Bakery
14020 Galveston Rd Webster (on Hwy 3 near Clear Lake City Blvd)



Join parents of intermediate and high school children and CASE officers for a lunch social.
 "Please come and see what you can do to advocate for our gifted children!"



Off to a Strong Start

Thursday, September 24, 7:00 PM
Westbrook Intermediate School
302 W El Dorado Blvd.
Friendswood, TX 77546

Start off the new school year strong! Do you have questions on how to handle new challenges and transitions or do you want to find out more about what it means to be gifted? CASE is kicking off the school year with breakout sessions to address your questions and more!

Participants may choose two topics:

Supporting Your Child Through Social and Emotional Changes

For parents of elementary and intermediate children

WAVE Survival Tips

For parents of WAVE 6th grade students

By Nancy Stewart and Samantha Pulse, WAVE Teachers

Conversation Starters: Talking to Your Child's Teacher About Your Gifted Child

For parents of elementary children

By Barbara Scott, Brookwood Elementary AA Specialist

Trying to Figure Out High School and the College Application Process? Bring Your Questions

For parents of secondary students

Led by a panel of experienced parents

CCISD Gifted and Talented Identification Overview

For parents with questions about the GT identification process (1 session only)

By Dr. Jo Beth Brizendine, Director of Gifted and Talented and Advanced Academics

CASE membership dues are only \$12 per family annually. Join CASE by Oct. 1, 2013 and 100% of your dues will go toward teacher scholarships for the TAGT conference in Houston! CAS

E members receive email notification of all CASE activities and an electronic copy of the CASE newsletter.



Meet Your CASE Officers

Marie Michnovicz
President

Rachel Boeckenhauer
Vice President

Kay Hobstetter
Secretary

Susan Oh
Treasurer

Katie Raterink
Membership

Laura DuPont
Legislative

Lorena Calderon
Newsletter

Marilyn Matney
Communication

This Year's Theme:
“Advocating for Your Child in School”

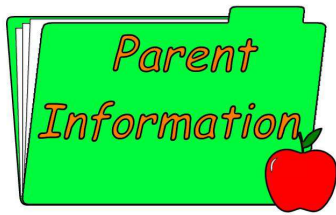


CASE for Gifted Children Needs YOU!

Consider lending your gifts and talents to CASE to serve the needs of the GT children in CCISD. The following positions are open:

**Website
Lunch Socials Coordinator**

Email us at CASE_gifted_children@yahoo.com to let us know you can help.



Is my Child Gifted?

Are you wondering if you should refer your child for GT identification? *Dr. Jo Beth Brizendine, Director of Gifted and Talented and Advanced Academics, will speak at the CASE Meeting, Tuesday, September 24 in the commons at Westbrook Intermediate School. All interested CCISD parents and caregivers are invited to learn more about the characteristics of gifted students and the GT Identification Process.*

Here is a list of Gifted Characteristics to consider. As compared to their age peers, gifted students tend to:

- Learn more rapidly
- Have a stronger need to know
- Perceive more unusual associations
- Be more adept at using abstract thinking skills
- Have a longer attention span
- Demonstrate more sophisticated communication skills
- See and create patterns of meaning
- Have intense and/or broad interests
- Be more intellectually playful
- Be better at discerning discrepancies
- Have greater retention of information
- Be more imaginative

(Dr. Jim Curry, University of Southern Maine)



Parents can also look at the following Characteristics of Giftedness Scale
http://www.gifteddevelopment.com/What_is_Gifted/characgt.htm

“Parents are excellent identifiers of giftedness in their children: 84% of 1,000 children whose parents felt that they exhibited 3/4 of the traits in our Characteristics of Giftedness Scale tested in the superior or gifted range. Over 95% demonstrated giftedness in at least one area, but were asynchronous in their development, and their weaknesses depressed their IQ scores.” (What We Have Learned About Gifted Children 1979 - 2007 Linda Silverman, Ph.D., Director Gifted Development Center).

“One of my favorite guides to understanding our students is Bertie Kingore’s breakdown of the traits of “gifted” and “high achieving” students- <http://www.bertiekingore.com/high-gt-create.htm>. The traits in the “gifted” category always make me think of Calvin from Bill Watterson’s wonderful *Calvin and Hobbes*.”

Check out what Calvin and Hobbes can teach us about gifted kids -<http://www.byrdseed.com/calvin/>.

So feel confident that you know your own child the best!

REFERRALS FOR THE GIFTED AND TALENTED PROGRAM

The Clear Creek Independent School District Gifted and Talented Program is accepting written referrals for students in grades K-12 for the 2011-2012 school year. Referrals are accepted, ongoing, from the following: teachers, students, administrators, special education personnel, counselors, or parents/guardians. The referral must be submitted in writing to the Advanced Academic Specialist located at each of the elementary schools or the campus counselor at the secondary levels. It may also be submitted to the GT office located at 2425 E. Main Street, League City.

The Gifted Program is designed for students who demonstrate significantly above-average achievement or potential in the areas of general intellectual ability, specific subject matter aptitude, and creative/productive thinking skills. Criteria for selection include cognitive skill tests, professional recommendations, classroom performance and portfolio samples.

The **deadline** for students in **grades 1 – 12 is October 1, 2013**. The deadline for accepting referrals for students in **kindergarten** is **December 1, 2013**. For more information, please contact the Gifted and Talented Program office at 281-284-0081.



Katy Parents of Gifted and Talented Speaker Series

Lisa Van Gemert, Gifted Youth Specialist for Mensa

"The Gift of Self: developing strong self-esteem in gifted learners"

Friday, October 18, 2013 at 7:00 pm, \$5 for non-members

Morton Ranch High School, 21000 Franz Rd, Katy, TX 77449

Check out Lisa Van Gemert 's website: <http://www.giftedguru.com/>



SENG-Model Parent Support Group

For parents of bright, gifted or talented children

You are invited to participate in a guided discussion group to learn about the social and emotional needs of bright/gifted/talented children, and the parenting issues related to those needs. The emphasis is on positive aspects of parenting, avoiding power struggles, and helping these children learn appropriate life skills while enhancing the parent/child relationship. Topics will include: *Identification/Characteristics, Parent Relationships, Sibling Relationships, Communication of Feelings, Stress Management, Depression, Motivation, Tradition Breaking, Peer Relationships, and Discipline*. For more information on SENG (Supporting Emotional Needs of Gifted) see www.sengifted.org.

Facilitator: Julie Wilcox

Dates: October 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, 7

Time: 1:00- 2:00

Location: Westbrook Intermediate

Book: "A Parent's Guide to Gifted Children" by Webb, Gore, Ahmend, and Devries.

(Scholarships are available)

Registration: PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED. Register early; class size is limited.

For registration form contact Julie Wilcox at jwilcox@ccisd.net

SAVE THE DATE!

- ❖ October 17: TAGT conference Early Registration for teachers
- ❖ Oct. 18: Katy Parents of Gifted and Talented Speaker Series
- ❖ Nov. 12: CASE meeting at Westbrook
- ❖ Dec. 4-6 TAGT Conference
- ❖ Dec 6: TAGT Conference Parent Day



Texas A & M University Chemistry Open House

Saturday, October 12, 2013 - 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM
Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas

<http://www.chem.tamu.edu/openhouse/>

Every year the Texas A&M Department of Chemistry hosts a free, open to the public, Chemistry Open House and Science Exploration Gallery to celebrate National Chemistry Week.

The Chemistry Open House features the popular Chemistry Road Show (<http://www.chem.tamu.edu/roadshow/>), guided lab tours, hands-on and computer activities, door prizes and science goodie bags. The Chemistry Road Show is recommended for all ages and includes demonstrations of popular science.

Several departments including Physics, Engineering and Biochemistry are represented at the Chemistry Open House.

STAR Program at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Troy, NY



Rensselaer invites academically talented rising seniors, who are underrepresented minorities or young women, to apply for the STAR (Science, Technology, Arts at Rensselaer) program. Students accepted to participate in the STAR program will receive a confirmation packet from Rensselaer. Application Deadline: October 4, 2013.

The STAR program begins the evening of Thursday, October 24 with a dinner reception and concludes Saturday, October 26 at the close of the Fall Open House. Weekend activities will include: Interactive leadership activity, Academic experience, Undergraduate research overview and tour of laboratories, Campus tour, Student panels, Student organizations and clubs fair, Lodging and meals with current students.

Students may apply online to participate in the STAR Program by going to <http://admissions.rpi.edu/STAR/>

The Sally Ride Science Festival at Rice University

October 12, 2013 at Rice University

11:00pm to 4:15pm Fee: \$20



Presented by Exxon Mobile, the Sally Ride Science Festival includes:

An inspiring talk by astronaut Wendy Lawrence, discovery workshops for girls, which may be given by local veterinarians, astronomers, microbiologists and more, workshops for parents and teachers on ways to support girls' interests in science, a street fair with booths, hands-on activities, food, and music

While our festivals are primarily focused on encouraging 5th-8th grade girls to pursue their interests in science, everyone is welcome to attend! Advance registration is required and is \$20 (includes the featured talk, workshops, lunch, and the Street Fair).

Don't miss out—sign up now at <https://www.sallyridescience.com/festivals> .



Annual Energy Day Festival
Saturday, October 19, 2013- 11 am – 5pm
 Hermann Square, City Hall, Downtown Houston



<http://energydayfestival.org/about/energy-day/>

A FREE, Family Friendly Festival

An official City of Houston event, Energy Day is a free, family-friendly festival on Saturday, October 19, 2013 that celebrates and highlights the importance of energy in our daily lives. This day-long festival takes place at Hermann Square in front of City Hall in Downtown Houston, Texas. There will be energy exhibits, live music, food, contests and fun for all ages.

Geared toward K-12 students, Energy Day's mission is to highlight and demonstrate innovation in energy and to spark the interests of our next generation in energy-related careers. Through exciting, fun and interactive formats, Energy Day will give students and their families an opportunity to learn about various forms of energy, scientific breakthroughs and technology through educational displays, demonstrations, contests and presentations.

Interactive exhibits will be focused on innovation, energy production, processes and efficiencies. The students will be able to touch state-of-the-art technology, interact with the experts and ask questions.

Together with our sponsors and partners, including University of Houston and Houston Mayor Annise Parker, Consumer Energy Alliance hopes to amplify how truly integral energy is in our daily lives while motivating, challenging and inspiring young minds to explore career paths in the energy field.



CORNER

TAGT Celebrates Successes in 2013 Legislative Session

Have you heard the good news? House Bill 5 (HB 5), passed during the recent Texas legislative session, could open new doors for gifted and talented programs. Most of the discussion about HB 5 has been centered on high school student assessments and graduation plans. But, there's also good news for gifted education in HB 5!

Included in the law is a provision that will require school districts to evaluate and assign a rating to a number of specific programs annually - and educational programs for gifted and talented students is one of the areas!

For more details on House Bill 5 and the gifted education provision, as well as a re-cap of 2013 TAGT Policy goals and legislative successes, go to <http://txgifted.org/legislative-update/> for more information.

Join Texas Association for the Gifted and Talented

*Parents and Educators Dedicated to Meeting the
Unique Needs of Gifted and Talented Students*

TAGT is the state advocacy group for gifted education in Texas. A \$25 Parent Membership pays for the Tempo subscription and gets you connected with TAGT. The \$55 Professional/Advocate Membership gives you the Tempo subscription and conference discounts AND goes a long way toward supporting TAGT's role as a statewide advocate for GT education and funding.

Membership numbers count when it comes to state-level advocacy; legislators want to know how strong a force they are reckoning with based on the state advocacy group's membership. Here's a great opportunity for us as parents to make a difference in gifted education.

<http://www.txgifted.org/about/membership>



**2013 TAGT Annual Parent Conference
Friday, December 6, 2013**

**George R. Brown Convention Center,
Houston, TX**

<http://tagtconference.org/registration/parent-conference-registration/>

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Helping Different Kinds of Minds to Succeed -Dr. Temple Grandin, Colorado State University

BREAKOUT SESSIONS

Understanding and Working Through the Misconceptions of Perfectionism

Ginger Bihm and Sandra Richmond, Hurst-Euless-Bedford ISD

Worrier to Warrior: Understanding Anxiety in the Gifted Learner

Marissa Blatner, Kelly Barrett, Carolyn Forbes, and Tracy Johnson, Northwest ISD

TEA Update on Gifted Education- Monica Brewer and Debbie Gonzales, Texas Education Agency

The Light and Shadow Sides of Gifted Complexities

Dr. Patricia Gatto-Walden, Psychologist/Educational Consultant

Four G/T Kids and Married to the Superintendent

Aldine Gearing and Bruce Gearing, Dripping Springs ISD

Swimming in the Alphabet Soup of College Readiness- Dr. Sheila Griffith, Knowsys Educational Services

Duke University Talent Identification Program-

Traci Guidry, Duke University Talent Identification Program

Ten Things NOT to Say to Your Gifted Child- Nancy Heilbronner, Western Connecticut State University

Kuriosity Did Not Kill the Kat: Nurturing Your Child's Creativity

Dr. Rick Shade and Patti Garrett Shade, Curiosita Teaching

Inspiring Involvement: What It Takes to Build an Effective Parent Advocacy Group

Janet Thomason, Katy Parents of the Gifted and Talented, and Alene Lindley, Katy ISD

Emotional Intelligence for Gifted Learners- Lisa Van Gemert, Mensa Foundation

Guiding Gifted Children- Dr. James Webb, Great Potential Press



JOIN TODAY! Join CASE by Oct. 1, 2013 and 100% of your dues will go toward *teacher scholarships for the TAGT conference in Houston!*

Has your child been identified as Gifted and Talented within CCISD? If yes, then your family should join CASE today!

Do you work directly with Gifted and Talented students within CCISD? If yes, then you should join CASE today.

CASE for Gifted Children is a non-profit support and advocacy group for parents, teachers and other supporters of gifted education within CCISD.

Membership in CASE is a great investment in gifted education at only \$12 per school year for the entire family. CASE has very low overhead and most of your membership dues will provide programs for parents/educators or scholarships for educators to further their G/T specific education.

Communicate CASE communicates current news and events that impact gifted children within CCISD through the CASE website, meetings, and parent/teacher network.

Advocate CASE is the parent interface with the district to advocate for gifted programs throughout the district. CASE was instrumental in the development of the WAVE program as well as contributing to other positive changes in gifted programming within the district. CASE also helps to equip parents to more effectively advocate for their children.

Support Raising a gifted child is no easy task. There are social, emotional, and educational challenges at every stage. CASE serves as a support group to provide parents a venue to interact and learn from other parents of gifted children.

Educate CASE endeavors to provide educational benefits to parents, educators, and students. Valuable information and resources are available through regular meetings and the website. In addition, teachers across the district are supported with funding for continuing gifted education.

www.casegiftedchildren.org

case_gifted_children@yahoo.com

To join please complete the form below and mail it, along with your dues/donation via check or cash, to: CASE for Gifted Children, Susan Oh, Treasurer, 1321 Porta Rosa Lane, League City, 77573

--- Please Print Neatly ---

Date: _____ New Membership _____ Renewal _____ Check Number _____ or Cash _____

Membership Dues (please check one) **Family (\$12)** _____ **Teacher/Educator (\$6)** _____

Donation (please add to your membership) Gold (\$100) _____ Silver (\$50) _____ Bronze (\$25) _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____ **Email:** _____

Student Name(s)/Grade Level(s)/School(s) Attending: _____

I'd be happy to help with: _____ Advocacy _____ Social Events _____ GT Faculty Support