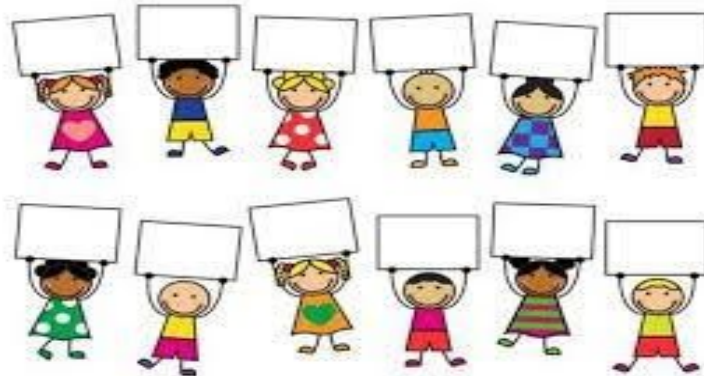


IDEAS FOR CELEBRATING GIFTED EDUCATION MONTH



As we celebrate gifted education month in Wisconsin, there are many ways that we can show our support for gifted education, our students, families, and educators. Here are a few of them:

Stay abreast of what's happening at the legislative level. Know when issues impacting gifted education are being discussed. Follow updates from the Government Action Committee at the Wisconsin Association for Talented and Gifted WATG.ORG. Offer assistance by contacting your legislators.

Thank educators who are meeting the needs of gifted students well. The ideas below come from authors Judy Galbraith and Jim Delisle, authors of *The Gifted Kids Survival Guide*, Free Spirit Publishers, 2005, and could be used as a starting point for a conversation. Commend teachers for:

- teaching to students' individual learning preferences, levels, and needs
- ...remaining flexible to accommodate unusually advanced students
- ...encouraging excellence without expecting perfection
- ...not pressuring students or pushing too hard
- ...not pretending to know everything, and showing students that you are a life-long learner
- ...respecting your students' intelligence, and not allowing peers to tease smart kids
- ...having a good sense of humor
- ...allowing students to skip or test out of material they already know
- ...treating everyone with respect, no matter their differences
- ...helping all students develop their talents and potential
- ...realizing that gifted kids (like all young people) have lives outside of school

When a teacher is serving gifted students well, share that information with administrators and other parents. Praise often, both privately and publicly. Chocolate or coffee rewards are always appreciated too!



Research what others have found to work well with gifted students and try some of these things at home and in your classroom. Here are some great tips from **We Are Teachers**: [50 Tips, Tricks and Ideas for Teaching Gifted Kids](#)

If you are an educator, be aware of the standards for gifted education. The National Association for Gifted Children has documented them here: [NAGC - CEC Teacher Preparation Standards for Gifted Education](#)



Understand terms often used in gifted education such as asynchronous development, twice exceptional, perfectionism, underachievement, and multi-potentiality. A more complete list of terms and acronyms can be found at hoagiesgifted.org, an excellent resource for parents and teachers of gifted children. Here is the list of [Terms and Acronyms Often Used in Gifted Education](#).

Utilize organizations such as SENG, Supporting the Emotional Needs of Gifted at sengifted.org. SENG offers great facilitated groups for parents in meeting the needs of their gifted children. SENG also has an amazing database of articles that can be shared with others, including health care professionals.

Help build awareness about the unique needs of gifted and talented students by sharing this chart widely:



There are so many ways to celebrate gifted education month. Sharing these ideas and working together will improve educational outcomes for our high end learners. Happy Gifted Education Month!

