



Gifted Education Month 2019

“Focus 4 Gifted”

To all gifted specialists in Alabama: We need your help to increase visibility and advocacy for gifted education. Please use the list of activities below to bring attention to Alabama’s gifted students during **GEM!** When you share your “Focus 4 Gifted” activities on Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram, your name will be entered into a drawing for Amazon Gift Cards during GEM in January. Also, AAGC needs your help in recruiting legislators who will be “champions” for gifted education. Visits, letters, and phone calls are best. To find out who your legislative representatives are, text your zip code to 5202002223.

Throughout the Month: “Spread the News”

- Share the AAGC advocacy video through social media, at GEP meetings, and other school events
- Retweet @alabamagifted
- Use the hashtag #ALgifted when sharing through social media
- Write an article about gifted education and submit to your local newspaper.
- Ask local businesses to advertise **GEM** on their marquee or on their computerized signs
- Write letters to the editor thanking legislators, community members, school board members, and others for visiting your classroom and learning about gifted education
- Inform your local newspaper, radio, and TV about **Gifted Education Month**. Ask them to feature what’s happening in your district to meet the needs of gifted students

Week 1 Jan 7-13: “Celebrate”

- Create posters on why gifted education is important; submit for publication or post in businesses.
- Create a video about the importance of gifted education. Share through social media or websites.
- Create a PSA about the need for funding of gifted student programs. Share through social media.
- Contact the local library or other community facility to create a display case of gifted students’ products.
- Each day of **Gifted Education Month** share a quotation by a famous gifted person on social media.
- Prepare a “Question of the Day” for each day of **Gifted Education Month**. Display the questions so students may research the answer. Share the question on social media.
- Share quotes from students on social media to the following hashtags: #algifted and #algem

Week 2 Jan 14-20: “Make Connections”

- Invite legislators to visit your classroom to interact with students and learn more about gifted education.
- Write letters to your local school board thanking them for their support of gifted education.
- Have students write letters to legislators telling them why gifted education is important to them.
- Present the president of the school board and principal with framed certificates of appreciation for support of gifted education to hang in their offices.
- Arrange to speak to parent groups (PTA, PTO) or other community groups to highlight gifted education.
- Tweet to your legislators and tag two friends in your post, challenging them to do the same.

Week 3 Jan 21-27: “Take the Lead”

- Contact your mayor to sign a proclamation saying your city will join the State of Alabama in recognizing January as **Gifted Education Month** and advertise in your city
- Arrange to speak to local community groups about the purpose of gifted student programs. Highlight the positive aspects of gifted education in your district.
- Ask to be on the agenda of your school board’s January meeting. Have gifted students present on their achievements or show a video they have made about their gifted program.
- Form a parent group for parents of gifted students to network with each other.
- Form a student group to be ambassadors for gifted education and have them help you lead the charge!