



Alabama Association for Gifted Children

Gifted 2020: Envisioning the Possibilities

Greetings AAGC Members!

Welcome to Fall 2020! As summer officially ends, we are diving into a new school year which will bring with it new challenges and new opportunities. As I have talked with gifted specialists around the state, I am hearing about many, varied (and unusual) ways gifted learners are involved in educational experiences. Some of you are following a traditional face-to-face model, while others are serving students with hybrid delivery. And, of course, some students are learning through virtual/online delivery. Whatever method your school/district is using, we need to remember that there is more to education than acquisition of academic content... addressing the needs of the whole child, including his/her affective needs, should be a part of our instructional plan.

PD You Can Use: Weekly Webinars

In case you haven't heard, AAGC is offering Weekly Webinars every Tuesday night at 6:00 PM, now through the end of September. The response so far has been amazing. If you attended one or more of the webinars, I know you will agree with me that the topics have been very timely, and the presenters have been engaging and knowledgeable. For all AAGC members, the webinars are free. If you are not a member, or you know someone you think might want to attend who is also not a member, the membership fee is only \$25 per year.

To join AAGC or register for any of the webinars, visit the [AAGC website](#) for details.

Below is the schedule for the webinars this month. After you register, you will receive the Zoom link in an email. Each webinar is 6:00-7:00 PM. All registrants will receive a certificate of attendance.

- Sept 1: "Designing Personalized Learning Experience for Gifted Children"- Dr. Brian Housand
- Sept 8: "Introduction to Schoology" - Brandi Caldwell, Technology in Motion Specialist
- Sept 15: "Integrative Teaching: Putting the Emotion In" - Dr. Lisa Van Gemert
- Sept 22: "Creating Bitmoji Classrooms" - Charla Deleo and Laura Sargent
- Sept 28: "Creating Virtual Hands-on Science Activities" - Dr. Shirley Farrell

Annual Conference: October 15-16

AAGC's annual conference is just over a month away! As you know, this year's conference will be virtual. The Conference Committee has put together an exciting program with national and state experts offering topics covering all aspects of gifted education. If you attended last year's conference, you are a current member of AAGC and can register at the member rate of \$90 for the two-day virtual conference. If you did not attend, you can either register as a non-member (\$115) or join AAGC (\$25/year) to register at the member rate of \$90.

Click below to complete the registration form:

<https://alabamagifted.org/Conference-Registration>

Supporting Gifted Learners' Families: Parents of gifted children are a vital part of AAGC's advocacy efforts. To help parents better understand the needs of their children both academically and emotionally, AAGC will begin a webinar series designed especially for families. Stay tuned for more details coming soon!

Nominations for Awards of Excellence: Each year AAGC honors those individuals who have made a difference in gifted education in Alabama and the lives of our gifted students. We are seeking nominations for the ***Awards of Excellence***. Nominations have not been as forthcoming as in years past, so the deadline is extended to **Wednesday September 9**. PLEASE consider nominating a worthy individual for one of the awards listed below.

Click [HERE](#) to complete the form to nominate a person you feel meets the qualifications for receiving one of the following awards:

- Outstanding Gifted Specialist Award
- Outstanding Administrator Award
- Outstanding Gifted Coordinator Award
- Outstanding General Education Teacher Award
- Award for Lifetime Achievement in Gifted Education

- Outstanding Community Member Award
- Outstanding Gifted Student Award
- Outstanding Gifted Parent Advocate

Educator Grants: Got a great idea for your classroom? There is still time to apply for one of AAGC's Educator Grants. Deadline has been extended until **Wednesday Sept 9**. Click [HERE](#) to complete the application.

Slate of Officers for 2020-2022

AAGC Executive Board members are elected to hold office for two years. Board members serve on the Executive Council which is made up of committee chairs and members-at-large, all of whom are volunteers and who put in countless hours helping make the organization serve as the key advocacy group supporting the needs of gifted students in Alabama. A new slate of officers has been recommended by the Nominating Committee, ready for approval by the association membership at our annual conference in October. The AAGC Nominating Committee, chaired by Past President Rita Sparks, has recommended the following slate of individuals:

- President-Elect - Kim Stephenson
- Vice President - Kelly Lomax
- Treasurer - Diane Calhoun
- Secretary - Chris Davis

As stated in the AAGC By-laws, "Additional nominations shall be made in writing to the Chair of the Nominating Committee at least one month prior to the annual business meeting at which time the slate is voted upon. If more than one person is nominated for a particular office, the election shall be conducted by written ballot or show of hands. Election of the slate of officers shall be determined by a majority vote." Additional nominations should be made in writing to Rita Sparks.

Reminder: Keep up-to-date on all AAGC happenings by subscribing to the following AAGC pages.

- [AAGC Website](#)
- [AAGC YouTube Channel](#)
- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [Instagram](#)

I wish you all a successful school year as you inspire your students and provide exceptional learning experiences for them. See you at our virtual conference in October!

Best regards.

Patti Wood, President

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