

# JAGC September 2024 Newsletter

## How to Find Your Child's MAP and CMAS Assessment Scores

Our October newsletter will have information on how to advocate for your gifted student(s). In preparation for that, here is **how to find your child's MAP and CMAS scores in Infinite Campus**:

- When you are logged into Infinite Campus, at the bottom of the left pane, click "More."
- In the right pane, click "Student Insights."
- If you have multiple children in Jeffco, in the upper right there is a drop-down box to select which child you are viewing results from.
- District Assessments – if you click this box you will see MAP scores and growth. MAP is typically administered by teachers 3 times per year.
- State Assessments – if you click this box you will see CMAS scores and growth reports. CMAS is required by the state and is taken in the spring.

Note: Typically, CMAS is for grades 3-8, PSAT is for grades 9 & 10, and SAT is for grade 11. PSAT and SAT reports are accessed online via [College Board](#) and usually available in May. Your student should have a College Board login where they can access their scores. If you are having trouble finding their scores, try My SAT under your student's profile. Schools should be sending home with your child paper copies of their scores in September sometime. Unfortunately PSAT/SAT scores are not available on Student Insights.

## Advanced Learning Plans (ALPs)

GT Learners in Jeffco write one academic and one affective goal each year, to help them focus on actualizing their personal potential. This should be completed by the end of October. Goals for your child's ALP should be in process by the time you attend parent-teacher conferences and in elementary, teachers should go over the ALP with parents at this time. You can see your child's ALP goals in Infinite Campus. As stated above, to see your child's MAP and CMAS scores, there is a tab there for ALP. If you have any questions you can find [more information about ALPs here](#). If that doesn't answer all your questions, [contact your GT Resource Teacher](#).

**If you ever have questions** about anything in our newsletters, or any questions about gifted & talented, always feel free to contact us at [info@JeffcoGifted.org](mailto:info@JeffcoGifted.org). We are parents helping parents and have many resources to help you advocate for your child(ren).

# Jeffco GT Department Gifted & Talented Center Application

The 2024 [Fall GT Center Testing application](#) window (for the 2025-26 school year) is now open until **October 25, 2024**. The application and testing is for GT Center placement for the *2025-26 school year*. Even if you aren't sure if you want to move your child to a GT Center if they qualify, apply anyway. You can always decline, but you can't accept if you haven't applied.

[Find out more about ALPs here.](#)

[Find out more about GT Centers here.](#) And [which schools have GT Centers](#) (this is an old map but is accurate except that Sheridan Green Elementary closed and the GT Center moved to Ryan Elementary, and Kendrick Lakes Elementary is phasing out their GT Center).

If you have questions, attend the Jeffco GT Department's [GT Information Night](#) September 17<sup>th</sup> (videos on key topics will still be available after this date), or one of the monthly Jeffco GT Department's [Virtual Office Hours](#). If those don't work for your schedule, reach out to your school's [GT Resource Teacher](#).

## Jeffco GT Department Gifted & Talented Identification for an Advanced Learning Plan

If you want to find out if your child qualifies for an Advanced Learning Plan (ALP), meaning they would be identified as Gifted & Talented (GT), and you are sure you want them to remain in their neighborhood school, where roughly 80% of Jeffco's GT students are served, you can use the [GT Identification process](#) where you will fill out a [referral form](#) to get it started.

If you would consider placing your child in a GT Center, if they qualify, you should use the [GT Center Application](#) process instead. Even if you aren't sure if you want to move your child to a GT Center, apply anyway. You can always decline, but you can't accept if you haven't applied. Deadline to apply for GT Center placement for the 2025-26 school year is October 25, 2024.

[Find out more about ALPs here.](#)

[Find out more about GT Centers here.](#) And [which schools have GT Centers](#) (this is an old map but is accurate except that Sheridan Green Elementary closed and the GT Center moved to Ryan Elementary, and Kendrick Lakes Elementary is phasing out their GT Center).

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## **Parent/Guardian Group**

For Those with Children on the Autism Spectrum,  
Whether Formally Identified or Not,  
in Jeffco Public Schools

Having a Twice Exceptional (2e – gifted with a disability) child can be incredibly challenging to navigate. There is no linear path to help your child and can often feel overwhelming and lonely. Our group primarily consists of parents in Jeffco with student(s) who are Gifted & Talented (GT) and on the Autism Spectrum. If you have a 2e child, whether or not they have been identified as being on the Autism Spectrum, you are welcome to join our group and share your journey. This group was created with the aspiration of finding and connecting families to help them know that they are not alone and to expand on our community. We are currently a group of 20 families who started meeting earlier in 2024 through online, in person, and at social gatherings. This has allowed us to really get to know each other and to exchange ideas and stories on what is working and what isn't. We also have had guest speakers that are experts in their field to help our parents with any questions they may have. Connection is key and this group helps navigate the journey that is 2e. If you are interested in joining this group, please reach out to [info@jeffcogifted.org](mailto:info@jeffcogifted.org). Your email will be forwarded to Allison Jussel and she will contact you to share more information. We would love for you to join us and to help grow this wonderful community!

## **Upcoming Events**

### **CU Wizards: Black Holes**

Join Professor Andrew Hamilton and students in grades K-12 to learn more about Black Holes! Click [here](#) for more information.

Saturday, September 14, 2024

9:30am-10:30am

Location: Fiske Planetarium, University of Colorado-Boulder

Cost: Free

### **Jeffco GT Dept: Jeffco GT Information Night**

Learn more about gifted and talented education in Jeffco including the GT Identification process and GT Center programs. On September 14<sup>th</sup> videos about Jeffco's GT process and offerings will be [posted here](#). Watch these videos at your convenience. On September 17<sup>th</sup> from 4-6pm, questions can be asked during a virtual meeting.

Tuesday, September 17, 2024

4:00pm – 6:00pm

Virtual – Please [RSVP here](#)

## Jeffco GT Department: GT Office Hours for Parents

The GT Department is excited to announce that we will be offering office hours for our Parents. We will provide a connection opportunity for parents and families to ask general questions that they have about our department, GT programming in Jeffco, Center Schools, and other higher level topics with our Resource Teachers, Social Emotional Learning Counselors, and department leadership. Please see [our website](#) for more information and to complete the [short registration](#) form in order to get a link to participate virtually.

Here is the schedule of office hours for this year:

9/17 (Tuesday) 4-6 pm\*  
10/14 (Monday) 5-6 pm  
11/14 (Thursday) 5-6 pm  
12/16 (Monday) 3:30-4:30 pm  
1/22 (Wednesday) 4-5 pm  
2/26 (Wednesday) 4-5 pm  
3/11 (Tuesday) 5-6 pm  
4/17 (Thursday) 5-6 pm  
5/6 (Tuesday) 3:30-4:30 pm

\*The September Office Hour is in combination with Jeffco's GT Information Night

## Jeffco GT Department: Book Study Group

**Elementary and Middle School GT Parent Education and Book Study Group of the Book [Anxious Kids, Anxious Parents](#) by Lynn Lyons and Reid Wilson**

The Jeffco GT Department invites you to join a book study and parent/guardian education group led by GT Social Emotional Learning Counselors.

6 Thursdays (from 9/26/2024-11/14/2024)  
Coronado Elementary School 7922 S Carr St, Littleton, CO 80128  
5:30pm-6:30pm

[Registration & Details](#)

**Space is Limited**

## Save the Date

[Jeffco GT Department Events](#):

- October 1, 2024 (multiple topics presented by Jeffco GT staff)
- December 10, 2024 (GT Testing and Identification in Jeffco)

Check out JAGC's [Events](#) page for updates.



You are receiving this email thanks to your membership with CAGT or one of the CAGT Affiliate organizations.  
Thank you for supporting our organization and children who are gifted and talented.



**CAGT**  
Colorado Association for  
Gifted and Talented

# The Happenings

Your source for all gifted and talented events happening in Colorado and beyond!

*The Happenings provides access to a variety of events, articles, videos, podcasts, and webinars  
to help support children who are gifted.*

## What's Happening in September?

### Notes

\* CAGT does not endorse individuals, organizations, or companies. The information included in this publication is for informational purposes only.



### Events

#### **"BlackHoles!" with Professor Andrew Hamilton**

*Sponsored by CU Wizards and University of Colorado-Boulder*

Students ages 8-18 are invited to learn about mysterious blackholes with Professor of Astrophysical & Planetary Sciences Andrew Hamilton!

Location: Fiske Planetarium, Boulder

Cost: Free

September 14th at 9:30am



## *Conversations with CAGT*

*Conversations with CAGT is back with an all-new season of timely, relevant topics by preeminent local, national, and international specialists in the field of gifted education! CWC has a new format this season with programs premiering on the **first Tuesday of the month** at 5:00 pm MST on Facebook Live. [Check out past Conversations with CAGT programs on our website.](#) Conversations with CAGT is an incredible opportunity to get expert advice on topics regarding giftedness for FREE with time to ask your questions!*

**Tuesday, September 3rd: Cecilia Quintanilla**  
*"Signs of Giftedness in the Early Years"*

Click the Facebook link below to follow *Conversations with CAGT*.



### [Boulder Valley Gifted and Talented Fall Kickoff!](#)

*Sponsored by CAGT Affiliate: BVGT*

Bring your family and join BVGT for an ice cream social and lawn games to kickoff our fall events! Come learn more about BVGT, upcoming programs and opportunities to get involved.

Location: Annette Brand Park, 961 Azure Way, Louisville, CO

Cost: Free

September 15th from 4:00-5:30pm

### [Jeffco GT Department: Jeffco GT Information Night](#)

*Sponsored by CAGT Affiliate: JAGC*

Learn more about gifted and talented education in the Jefferson County School District including the GT Identification process and GT Center programs. On September 14th, videos about the GT process will be posted on the district website. Watch these videos on your own and bring your questions to this information night!

Location: Virtual

Cost: Free

September 17th from 4:00-6:00pm

### [School Daze: Finding the Right Educational Environment for your 2e Child](#)

*Sponsored by The Summit Center*

Join this free webinar to learn what factors are important in choosing a school, what questions to ask, the fallacy of the "perfect school" and other similar topics!

Location: Online

Cost: Free

September 18th at 12:00pm Pacific

### [Human Connections: Personalizing Creativity Through the Arts](#)

*Sponsored by The Renzulli Center for Creativity, Gifted Education and Talent Development*

Join this free webinar with Ben Lacina from The Renzulli Center to discuss ways to develop your child's creativity through the arts!

Location: Online

Cost: Free

September 21st at 11:00am Eastern



## 2024 Conference Registration

Join us for the 46th Annual CAGT Conference, Purpose & Passion, this October 20th-22nd! We are thrilled to announce that **Dr. Temple Grandin** is joining us again as a keynote for this year's conference! We are also excited to have this incredible line-up of featured speakers: **Dr. Kristina Collins**, **Richard Cash** and **Dr. Rick Olenchak**.

We hope you join us this October to learn from and be inspired by these keynotes and to hear from over 80 presenters sharing their knowledge and expertise covering topics that impact our GT kids and their education! There are sessions for educators, special education providers, mental health support teams, parents, administrators and district leaders. As a bonus, if you register for the 2 Day conference registration option, you will also be able to attend our virtual conference for free!

[Click here](#) for the registration link!



## Conference 2024 Shirts

If you would like to pre-order a t-shirt for this year's conference, please fill out [this form](#). You can pick up your shirt at the CAGT Table in the main hallway at the conference and pay for the shirt at that time. Shirts are \$20!

## Conference 2024 Programs

This year if you want a conference program you will need to purchase one before the conference. The charge for the program is \$5.00. We also have a conference app that will have all of the information for any attendee to access.

Please click here for [Program Purchase Form](#)

## Advocating for Brilliance: A Parent's Guide to Navigating Gifted Education

Sponsored by NAGC

Unlock the secrets to nurturing your gifted child's potential by learning how to partner with professionals at school and beyond!

Location: Online

Cost: Free

September 25th at 7:00pm Eastern



### In the News & GT Articles

["How Gifted Children Change in the Teenage Years"](#) (Psychology Today)

["Gifted Children Need Greater Support at School - New Study"](#) (The Educator Australia)

["Gifted Kids Will Not Always Grow Up to be Doctors and Lawyers...And That's OK"](#) (The Spot)

["What Parents Need to Know About Gifted and Talented Education"](#) (Chalkbeat Colorado)

["Does Being a Gifted Kid Make for a Burned-Out Adult?"](#) (Vox)

["Gifted Children and Talented Children: Behavior, Emotions and Social Development"](#) (RaisingChildren)

["Colorado School Districts are Working on New Ways to Find Gifted Students from all Backgrounds"](#) (Chalkbeat Colorado)

# CAGT Affiliates

Interested in learning more about CAGT and the work we do to support gifted and talented youth, their parents and educators? [Join CAGT](#) and reach out to an Affiliate organization in your area to get involved!

*Adams County:* Adams 12 GT Parent Group (AD12 GTPG [website](#) and [Facebook](#))

*Boulder County:* Boulder Valley Gifted and Talented (BVGT [website](#) and [Facebook](#))

*Colorado Springs, Fort Carson and Fountain:* Pikes Peak Association for Gifted Students (PPAGS [Facebook](#))

*Denver:* Denver Association for Gifted and Talented (DAGT [Facebook](#))

*Douglas County:* Douglas County Association for Gifted and Talented (DCAGT [website](#) and [Facebook](#))

*Fremont, Custer, Pueblo:* Lower Arkansas River Affiliate (LARA CAGT [website](#))

*Jefferson County:* Jefferson County Association for Gifted Children (JAGC [website](#) and [Facebook](#))

*Northeast BOCES and Sterling:* Northeast CAGT (NECAGT [website](#))

*South Metro including Sheridan, Englewood, Littleton and Centennial:*

South Metro CAGT (SoMe CAGT [website](#) and [Facebook](#))

*Southwest Colorado including Bayfield, Ignacio, Mancos, Cortez, Dolores, and Durango:* Southwest Gifted and Talented Community (SWGT [website](#) and [Facebook](#))

*Summit County:* Summit Advocates for Gifted Education (SAGE [website](#) and [Facebook](#))



## Recorded Media & Resources

[“Meeting Expectations – Your Gifted Child and Yourself”](#) (Davidson Institute)

[“The Young Gifted Child”](#) (Ohio Department of Education)

[“Resources for Parents of Gifted Children”](#)  
(Gifted Guru)

[“The Gifted Experience: Reframing Emotional Intensity”](#) (The NeuroDiversity Podcast)

[“Quick Back-to-School Guide for Teachers of Gifted Kids”](#) (Your Rainforest Mind)

[“Starting Strong: Inquiry-Based Strategies for a Successful School Year”](#) (NAGC Blog)

[“Boredom Busters and Ideas for At-Home Learning”](#) (NAGC Blog)

Above graphics above courtesy of Pixabay

## Advocacy Toolkit

Lawmakers in the House of Representatives have proposed eliminating the Javits Gifted and Talented Education grant program in FY25. This is the only federal funding dedicated specifically to gifted and talented education.

[Please voice your opposition to this proposed cut!](#) The Javits Act orchestrates a coordinated program of scientifically based research, demonstration projects, innovative strategies, and similar activities that build and enhance elementary and secondary schools' ability to meet the special educational needs of gifted and talented students!

The Javits Act focuses resources on identifying and serving students who are traditionally underrepresented in gifted and talented programs to help reduce achievement gaps and encourage the establishment of equal educational opportunities for all students.

In addition to demonstration grants, the Javits Act funds the [National Research and Development Center for the Education of Gifted and Talented Children and Youth](#), which conducts a focused program of research that includes an exploratory study, an impact evaluation, and leadership and outreach activities to ensure that the research informs education practice.

We are asking all supporters of gifted and talented education to [please take two minutes to email their House members](#) and ask them to save Javits funding in FY25.

Click [here](#) to send your representative a pre-written (customizable) e-mail opposing this drastic cut to gifted education funding.

## LEGISLATION

**Stay in the Know about Colorado Gifted Education Legislation!**

Visit the [CAGT website](#) to read about state and federal legislation, past and current bills that have impacted gifted education and a continually updated link to legislation from this year's session. CAGT will work to keep you informed of bills that will not only benefit all children, but also those that address the specific needs of our gifted students.





## New Books

[Intersection of Intensity: Exploring Giftedness and Trauma](#)

by Patricia Gently MSMHC Ph.D.

[Sparking Change to Promote Equity: Implementing Culturally Responsive Leadership Practices in Gifted and Advanced Programs](#)

By Javetta Jones Roberson and Kristina Henry Collins

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## Links

[CAGT Calendar](#)

[CAGT Affiliates List](#)

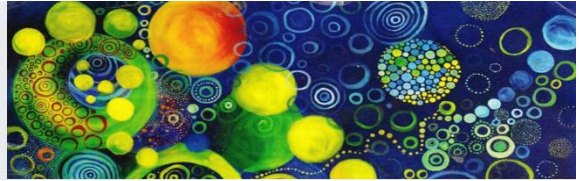
[Conference Info](#)

If you would like for your gifted and talented event information to be included in The Happenings, then email your event information by the 20th of each month to Molly Gibney at [cagtmolly@gmail.com](mailto:cagtmolly@gmail.com).

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