



JAGC September 2025 Newsletter

JAGC Parent Support Meetings We Want to Hear from You!

We are reimagining our traditional board meetings to encourage time for any Jeffco parent to join us and ask questions, or just need a space to find support for their GT and/or 2e child(ren). JAGC Board members will meet from 4:30-5:15pm and then from 5:15-6:00pm will be an open forum for any parents that want to join us. This is a great time for you to meet us and let us know how we can help support you and your child(ren). We are looking forward to having you join us and to partner with you to help your GT/2e journey be successful!

If you have additional questions, please email us directly at info@jeffcogifted.org. If meeting in-person is not an option for you, we can set up an online meeting to ensure we are able to support you.

2nd Tuesday of the month Sept. 9th, Oct. 14th, Nov. 11th, Dec. 9th, Jan. 13th, Feb. 10th, March 10th, April 14th, May 12th, and June 9th (if needed). Please check our [website](#) for updates.

Jeffco Education Center, Room 2A
1829 Denver West Dr., Golden, CO 80401
4:30-5:15pm JAGC Board Meeting (all are welcome)
5:15-6:30pm Open Forum for Parents/Guardians/Caregivers

Getting Ready for Parent/Teacher Conferences

In preparation for parent/teacher conferences, you can find a lot of information on advocating for your child(ren) on our [Advocacy webpage](#), including [how to find your child's MAP, CMAS, and PSAT/SAT scores in Infinite Campus](#).

Advanced Learning Plans (ALPs)

GT Learners in Jeffco Public Schools 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, where you'll find their MAP/CMAS/PSAT/SAT scores in Student Insights. If you have any questions you can find [more information about ALPs here](#). If that doesn't answer all your questions, attend a [GT Office Hour](#) or [contact your GT Resource Teacher](#).

Jeffco GT Department

Gifted & Talented Center Application

The 2025 [Fall GT Center Testing application](#) window (for the 2026-27 school year) is now open until 4pm on **October 24, 2025**. The application and testing is for GT Center placement for the 2026-27 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. [GT Center Application Flow Chart](#).

[Find out more about Advanced Learning Plans \(ALPs\) 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 ended their GT Center with the 2024-25 school year).

If you have questions, attend the Jeffco GT Department's [GT Information Night](#) September 16th (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 the process started. [GT Identification Application Flowchart](#).

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 2026-27 school year is at 4pm on October 24, 2025.

[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 ended their GT Center with the 2024-25 school year).

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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. 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: All That Spins!

CU Wizards First show of 2025-2026 Season!

Gwen Eccles presents:

"All that Spins! Hands on Physics!"

Saturday

September 13, 2025

9:30am - 10:30am

Location: Duane Physics G1B30, University of Colorado, Boulder

Cost: Free

"Did you know that we live in a world where everything spins! Join CU Wizards on an exciting adventure to discover what that means, how it feels, and why things get weird when they spin! Gwen Eccles, CU Physics Demonstration Coordinator, presents the first show of the CU Wizards season that will include hands-on activities for the audience. There will be CU physics professors in the audience who will happily talk with students and their families following the show."

For over 4 decades, CU Wizards family shows allow K-12 students to visit campus on a Saturday morning, participate in STEAM programs, meet and talk to professors, scientists, & fellow students of all ages who are curious about the natural world! Science needs people as much as people need science!

CU Wizards shows...always FREE, always fun...check out the [CU Wizards website](#).

[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. By September 12th videos about Jeffco's GT process and offerings will be [posted here](#). Watch these videos at your convenience. On September 16th from 5-6pm, questions can be asked during a virtual meeting.

Tuesday, September 16, 2025

5:00pm – 6:00pm

Virtual – Please [RSVP here](#)

[Jeffco GT Department: GT Office Hours for Parents](#)

Do you have questions about GT? We are here to help! Announcing GT department office hours, where you can speak with GT Resource Teachers, Social and Emotional Learning Counselors (SELCS), and GT department administration. Please see [their website](#) for more information and to complete the [short registration](#) form in order to get a link to participate virtually.

Here is the schedule for office hours for the 2025-26 school year:

8/27 (Wednesday) 4-5 pm

10/16 (Thursday) 4-5 pm

12/11 (Thursday) 4-5 pm

1/14 (Wednesday) 5-6 pm

2/9 (Monday) 4-5 pm

3/12 (Thursday) 5-6 pm

4/21 (Tuesday) 5-6 pm

5/13 (Wednesday) 4-5 pm

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

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. We are parents helping parents and have many resources to help you advocate for your child(ren).





CAGT
Colorado Association for
Gifted and Talented

The Happenings

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

What's Happening in September 2025?

Note:

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



Events

[Beyond Anxiety: A Creative Path to Fill Your Life with Joy and Calm](#)

September 3rd

Sponsored by GPS Parent Series

12:00pm or 7:00pm (Central)

Dr. Martha Beck will explain why anxiety is skyrocketing as an ever-present component of daily life. Using the latest neuroscience and coaching strategies, Beck will provide practical tools for engaging the “creativity spiral” which is a process used to successfully combat anxiety and foster innovative problem solving.

Location: Virtual

Cost: Free



CAGT Conference: Empowering Change

We invite you to join us for the 47th Annual CAGT Conference, Empowering Change on October 19th-21st. This year's theme provides opportunities for us to come together as educators to learn how to help students embrace change and become the change agents for our future. We can't wait!

Click [here](#) for the registration link and information about other opportunities and events to attend and enjoy at this year's conference.

Early Bird Pricing Ends September 15th

Hotel Information

Our block at the Embassy Suites is sold out. We have reserved blocks at two nearby hotels for you. Don't wait as these will sell out as well. Click on the hotel name below for the link.

[Fairfield Inn & Suites Loveland Fort Collins](#) for \$119.00

Last Day to Book : Friday, September 19, 2025

[Courtyard Loveland Fort Collins](#) for \$167.00

Last Day to Book : Thursday, September 18, 2025

**Boulder Valley GT Fall Kick-off Event:
Family Ice Cream Social**

September 7th

Sponsored by CAGT Affiliate: BVGT

3:00-4:30pm

Bring the whole family for an ice cream social and lawn games to kickoff fall events and the new school year! Families, educators, and others interested in supporting young gifted people are invited.

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

Cost: Free

**Exploring Gifted Neurocomplexity: Virtual
Community Group**

September 16th through October 21st

**Sponsored by Beyond Giftedness and
SENG**

10:00am every Tuesday

A group specifically designed to explore diagnostic complexity, twice-exceptionalism, masking, non-traditional ways of being, and the purpose of labels. This group is designed for gifted, 2e, autistic, ADHD, highly sensitive, anxious or otherwise neurocomplex adults.

Location: Virtual / Zoom

Cost: \$200 for 6 week session

**GT Parent Forum: Advanced Learning
Plans (ALPs)**

September 18th

Sponsored by CAGT Affiliate: AD12 GTPT

6:30-8:00pm

Join Director of Adams 12 Advanced Academic and Gifted Services, Dr. Lynn Saltzgaver, who will share what an Advanced Learning Plan is and how Adams 12 uses them to support student learning. The session will include examples of how collaboration among teachers, parents, and students can lead to successful ALPs.

Location: Educational Support Center, 1500 E 128th Ave, Thornton, CO

Cost: Free



CAGT Family Institute 2025

We're thrilled to announce our CAGT Family Institute 2025 is planned and open for registration. In collaboration with our Pikes Peak Affiliate (PPAGS), this Family Institute is bringing an evening of high-quality, live workshops to the Colorado Springs and surrounding areas. CAGT Family Institute is designed specifically for parents, guardians, grandparents and any adult caregiver who plays an integral role in raising their gifted children. During the event, our presenters will share their expertise about how to support the unique academic and social-emotional needs of these children when at home.

Date: September 4th from 5:00-7:00pm

Location: Academy for Advanced and Creative Learning,
Colorado Springs

[Click here for more information!](#)

Strength in the Stretch: Using Curriculum to Build Resilient Learners

September 18th

Sponsored by NAGC

12:00pm (Eastern)

Join this one-hour webinar exploring how thoughtfully designed curriculum can nurture resilience, foster perseverance, and help gifted learners thrive through productive struggle.

Location: Virtual

Cost: Free to NAGC members / \$20 non-members

Beyond Identification: Using Your Data to Accelerate Student Growth

September 18th

Sponsored by Riverside Insights

2:00pm

In this free 45-minute webinar you'll learn tips and tricks on how to quickly and easily use your student ability data in the classroom and how G&T directors are seeing double-digit growth after implementing a strength-based program.

Location: Virtual

Cost: Free

The Creativity Choice: From Having Ideas to Making Them Happen

September 20th

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

11:00am-12:00pm (Eastern)

Join this webinar to learn about the modern science behind creativity! Learn how researchers have focused on divergent thinking and idea generation. We will discuss: (1) Why do people sometimes have ideas, but fail to act on them?; (2) What are the self-regulation processes that enable progress and persistence through the creative process?; and (3) What is the role of social processes in shaping creative performance and achievement?

Location: Virtual

Cost: Free



Conversations with CAGT

1st Tuesday each month at 5:00 pm MST on Facebook Live

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. Join us on the first Tuesday of the month at 5:00 pm MST on Facebook Live!

Click the Facebook link below to access Conversations with CAGT.



Tuesday, September 2nd: Terra Price
"Supporting Gifted Learners Through Positive Psychology"



CAGT Student Talent Video Content

The 2025 CAGT Student Talent Video Contest is here! Colorado students, we challenge you to make a short (20-30 second) video showcasing your exceptional, jaw-dropping talent for a chance to be showcased at this year's CAGT Conference in Loveland.

Check out [this video](#) to get inspired.
Click on [this submission form](#) for details.

Submissions are open through September 30th.

"They Started It!!" Raising Gifted and Neurotypical Siblings Together

September 23rd

Sponsored by Texas Association for the Gifted and Talented

6:30-7:30pm (Central)

This presentation will focus on how to manage the relationships between gifted and non-gifted siblings with emphasis on communication, navigating asynchronous development across peers, and setting internal expectations. This presentation will offer concrete, usable strategies for parents to use to help their children feel safe, seen, and supported.

Location: Virtual

Cost: Free

Challenging Minds, Challenging Bans: Protecting Intellectual Freedom for Gifted

Learners

September 24th

Sponsored by NAGC

4:00pm (Eastern)

During this session, we will investigate the impact of curricular censorship on gifted students and will explore ways to push back against book bans. Join us for a dynamic discussion about keeping intellectual freedom alive.

Location: Virtual

Cost: \$10 for NAGC Members / \$20 for Nonmembers

Supporting Twice-Exceptional Learners at Home and at School

September 25th

Sponsored by NAGC

7:00pm (Eastern)

This presentation will overview the definitions of giftedness and twice-exceptionality and explore how these students interact with educational and mental health systems.

Location: Virtual

Cost: Free to NAGC members / \$20 non-members



CAGT Annual Student Art Contest

Students who attend any K-12 school or homeschool in the state of Colorado are invited to create an outstanding piece of original artwork which interprets this year's CAGT Conference theme: "Empowering Change." As always, the Art Contest Committee will be very selective about which artwork will be chosen and displayed this fall due to the limited space at the annual conference. Conference participants will view and vote for their favorite artwork.

[Click here for more information and to submit your artwork.](#)

Art Contest Deadline: September 15th



Get to Know CAGT At-Large Representative (Eastern Plains):

Miranda Harper

Miranda lives in Fort Morgan with her husband and two children. She has been the Gifted Coordinator for Morgan County School District since 2013. She loves working with gifted students and getting to know their passions and interests. Miranda truly values her role in advocating for their unique needs and supporting parents. In her free time, Miranda can be found reading, gardening, remodeling her home, or camping in the beautiful Colorado Rockies with her family.



Articles, Blogs and Gifted News

[“Too Smart for Their Own Good? Why Emotionally Intelligent Kids Struggle”](#)
(NewsWeek)

[“More Teens Lean Toward Alternative Postsecondary Options”](#)
(K-12 DIVE)

[“3 Ways Leaders Develop College and Career Pathways Designed to Serve All Students”](#)
(Education Week)

[“How Talented Students Fared During and After the Pandemic”](#)
(Psychology Today)

[“NYC Teachers Believe Many Kids Are Gifted & Talented. Why Doesn't the District?”](#)
(The 74)

[“Starting the New School Year Strong: What to do When There is No Gifted Programming Available”](#)
(NAGC Blog)

[“Saudi Arabia to Launch Five New Tech High Schools for Gifted Students”](#)
(Gulf News)

[“Osceola School District Introduces Major Changes for Exceptional Student Education”](#)
(Click Orlando)

[“Precalculus Is the Fastest-Growing AP Course. That's Reshaping K-12 Math.”](#)
(Education News)

[“Gifted — But Not Always on Top: New Study Reveals Toll for High-Achieving Students”](#)
(COSMOS)

[Charlotte-Mecklenberg Schools will Boost Screening for Academically Gifted Students as Part of New AIG Plan](#) (Charlotte Observer)

ADVERTISEMENT

World Game Practitioner Training



What is it?

The World Game is a 100% nonverbal intelligence and projective research tool that provides insight into the cognitive abilities as well as the affective and pedagogical aspects of a child. The World Game test enables education and healthcare professionals to map a child's potential.

Who is it for?

The World Game Practitioner training is meant for educators and psychologists who have experience in guiding, researching and/or identifying gifted children and/or adults, and twice-exceptional (2E) gifted needs in particular. The training is offered in collaboration with University of Colorado-Colorado Springs and Gifted Institute Denmark.

When?

November 9 – 12, 2025.

Where?

University of Colorado Colorado Springs, 1420 Austin Bluffs Pkwy Colorado Springs, CO

Registration and Cost?

[Click here for registration and pricing details.](#)



Podcasts, Videos & Webinars

["The Emotional Challenges of Gifted and Twice-Exceptional Children & How to Help Them Rise Above Them"](#)
(TAGT Webinar)

["Meeting the Needs of Profoundly Gifted Learners with Dr. Marisa Soto-Harrison"](#)
(Exceptionally Speaking Podcast)

["Dr. Jeff Karp on Helping Our Kids Energize Their Brain, Spark Ideas & Ignite Action"](#)
(Full Tilt Parenting Podcast)

["Growing Up Smart, Sensitive & Dyslexic with Dr. Nicole Tetreault"](#)
(Exceptional Girls Podcast)

["Why Do We Still Debate Overexcitabilities?"](#)
(Neurodiversity Podcast)

["Out Here Learning With Gifted Legend, Jere Chang!"](#) (Nerding out on Neurodiversity Podcast)

["Unlocking Potential: Rethinking Gifted Education"](#)
(Fueling Creativity in Education Podcast)

["Giving Gifted Education the Main Character Energy It Deserves"](#)
(A Meaningful Mess Blog)

Above graphics above courtesy of Pixabay



"The Happenings" en Español [Creando Nexos Neurodivergentes](#)

En esta ocasión, queremos compartir con ustedes el canal de YouTube Creando Nexos. Este espacio, creado por la psicóloga Adriana Vergara, reúne reflexiones y recursos sobre neurodivergencia, crianza respetuosa y educación inclusiva. Con un lenguaje cercano, busca tender puentes entre familias y docentes para generar comunidades escolares más comprensivas y colaborativas. En el marco del regreso a clases, les recomendamos escuchar el episodio "Creando Espacios para las Familias", que invita a repensar cómo construir entornos educativos más humanos, empáticos y abiertos a la diversidad. Es una oportunidad para inspirarse al iniciar el nuevo curso.



Advertising Opportunity!

Did you know *The Happenings* newsletter now provides advertising space to for-profit companies related to the enrichment of education and/or the education of gifted, talented, and creative students? Pricing starts at \$25 per ad! Our newsletter is sent to 1,000+ members every month, so it is a great opportunity to get the word out about your educationally related book, program, supply, or conference! There is a 10% discount for ads purchased with a 12 month subscription!

[Click here for details, pricing and additional information!](#)

CAGT Affiliates

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

Adams County: AD12 GTPG [website](#) and [Facebook](#)

Boulder County: BVGT [website](#) and [Facebook](#)

Colorado Springs, Fort Carson and Fountain:

PPAGS [Facebook](#)

Denver: DAGT [Facebook](#)

Douglas County: DCAGT [website](#) and [Facebook](#)

Fremont, Custer, Pueblo: LARA CAGT [website](#)

Jefferson County: JAGC [website](#) and [Facebook](#)

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

South Metro including Sheridan, Englewood, Littleton

and Centennial: SoMe CAGT [website](#) and [Facebook](#)

Southwest Colorado including Bayfield, Ignacio,

Mancos, Cortez, Dolores, and Durango:

SWGTT [website](#) and [Facebook](#)

Summit County: SAGE [website](#) and [Facebook](#)

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.

LEGISLATION

Immediate Action Needed: Urge Congress to Restore Javits Program Funding

We need your voice now more than ever. Funding for the Jacob K. Javits Gifted and Talented Student Education Program — a lifeline for research, innovation, and equity in gifted education — has not been reinstated in the FY26 federal budget proposal. The Javits Gifted and Talented Student Education Program is the only federal funding program specifically focused on supporting gifted and talented learners. Losing this important funding would be a significant step backward for the field of gifted and talented education.

[Click here to contact your member of Congress now!](#)

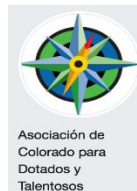
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