



November 2020

Thanks to families, teachers and schools for doing their part to make learning happen through the challenges of hybrid and remote learning. Jeffco sent a community survey in October so if you missed it and want to provide input, contact your principal.

As we head into more restrictions for community gatherings, we hope everyone stays healthy and takes proper precautions. See the calendars and community event listings for safe activities this month. Check in advance as activities may be postponed or cancelled.

Do your kids love to write? Look for several opportunities for writers in the "For Students" section.

Stay safe and stay well!



Have Questions or Concerns? Contact JAGC

Hybrid and remote school this year is new for everyone. If you have questions or concerns or need help, [email us](#) or post on our [Facebook](#) page. We want to hear from our families!

[Join JAGC](#)



Jeffco GT Dept. Info

[November Jeffco GT Department Gazette](#)

[The Power of Self-Advocacy Presentation](#)

If you missed Deb Douglas' presentation last month on "The Power of Self-Advocacy for Gifted Learners," here are links: [Video](#) [Slide deck](#)



[CogAT Parent Seminar - Dec. 8](#)

Jeffco GT is hosting a virtual CogAT (Cognitive Abilities Test) parent seminar on Tuesday, Dec. 8 from 6:30-8 PM. Part 1 is understanding the data and part 2 is understanding the GT identification and Advanced Learning Plan (ALP) process. To sign up for the webinar, go to the Jeffco GT website, sign up for "Understanding the CogAT Assessment for Parents" and complete the survey. Submit any questions you may have on the survey. You will be sent a link to the webinar.



[Advanced Learning Plans: New Process for Grades 6-12](#)

Schools should be wrapping up the Advanced Learning Plan (ALP) goal setting phase soon. GT learners in Jeffco write one academic and one affective goal each year, to help them focus on actualizing their personal potential. This is usually completed by the end of October, but may be somewhat delayed this year.

For more information and additional resources on ALPs (including the revised ALP for grades 6-12), visit the [GT Dept. Advanced Learning Plan website](#). Contact your [GT Resource Teacher](#) with questions.

To make accessing the goals easier for students, teachers, and families, ALP goal setting and monitoring process has moved to a new tool called SOARS for all grade levels (K-12). NAVIANCE will no longer be used for ALPs. For this initial rollout (2020-2021), GT Resource Teachers will be managing the process for your school and students. School staff will be supporting the goals at school.



Calendar & Events



[Conversations with CAGT – Tuesdays at 5 PM](#)

The Colorado Association for Gifted and Talented hosts weekly Facebook Live sessions with GT experts. Tune in Tuesdays at 5 PM on the [CAGT Facebook page](#).



[NAGC Annual Convention – Nov. 12-17](#)

The National Association for the Gifted annual convention is online this year. Live sessions (topic strand breakouts, signature sessions, featured speakers, and keynotes) offer an opportunity to interact with the speaker via a live Q&A. On-demand sessions can be watched at any time and all sessions will be available after the convention until May 2021.

[JAGC Calendar – Activities, Events & Conferences](#)

[Broomfield area events](#)

[Denver area things to do](#)

Check in advance as activities may be postponed or cancelled.



[Ongoing SENG Parent Support Groups](#)

Parents, are you looking for support? Supporting Emotional Needs of the Gifted (SENG) online support groups are designed to address the unique issues, needs and challenges faced by gifted families. The [website](#) lists upcoming groups.

[School Information Nights](#)

Deciding which schools to attend next year? Information nights are virtual this year. Check your local school websites for info and dates. Events are generally scheduled for November through January.

[Considerations for Sending a Child With Special Needs to School](#)

If you have a child with special needs, sending them to school comes with a mix of hopes, worries and questions. Check out Stanford University Medicine's [Decision Guide for Families With Special Needs](#).

[Coping Tools for College Students](#)

SAGE Center for the Gifted offers resilience coaching for college students and a college well-being toolkit including life skills to

handle anxiety and stress, thrive in school and relationships, develop a positive self-image and find balance and joy.

Contact Sagecenterforgifted.org.



For Students



[Center for Bright Kids Western Academic Talent Search \(WATS\) for Gifted Students Grades 3-9](#)

WATS participants take the SAT, ACT or PSAT 8/9 examinations to evaluate their strengths, gain experience and qualify for recognition and special programming. All participants receive a participation certificate, score interpretation information and access to summer opportunities. High-scoring students testing between October and March are invited to a regional WATS Recognition Ceremony.

If families of GT 3rd-9th graders need verification of GT eligibility, contact the Jeffco GT Dept. at gtinform@jeffco.k12.co.us and they will send a letter indicating your child's gifted identification status. Testing dates: grades 6-9 SAT & ACT, Dec.-June; grades 3-6 PSAT, Jan.-Feb. See the [CBK website](#) for testing options this year.

[Colorado Student Leaders Institute Summer Program – Apply by Jan. 31](#)

The Colorado Student Leaders Institute is an affiliate of the National Conference of Governor's Schools. A Governor's School on a resume is equivalent to a 5 on an AP exam. Students live and study on the University of Colorado Denver Campus for the duration of the program. Students have the choice of two 3-week sessions:

- Session 1: June 20 through July 10
- Session 2: July 11 through July 31

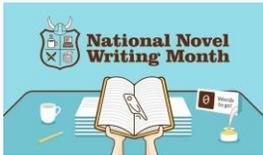
Students can choose from three majors: STEM, Art, or International Social Studies and receive interdisciplinary instruction from professors, business leaders, nonprofit managers, local government officials, and entrepreneurs. They also complete three labs: entrepreneurship lab, social problem lab, and National History Day. Application decisions will be announced in early March 2021.



[Jeffco Writing Challenge – Deadline Feb. 22](#)

The Jeffco Writing Challenge is open to all Jefferson County School students in K-12. Poetry, short stories, nonfiction or dramas are all welcome. Winning entries receive cash and gift card prizes, and schools win awards based on student entries. For more information on the

prompts, and for submission guidelines and entry form, see the event [website](#).



[November is National Novel Writing Month](#)

Writing a novel alone can be difficult, even for seasoned writers.

NaNoWriMo helps you track your progress, set milestones, connect with other writers in a vast community, and participate in events that are designed to make sure you finish your novel. Best of all, it's free.

[Denver Writes Virtual Creative Writing Clubs](#)

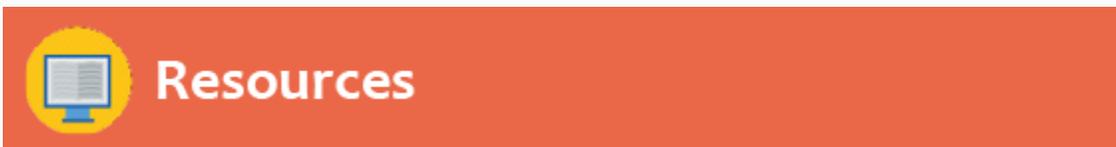
Denver Writes offers virtual afternoon writing clubs on Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 4:30-6:30 PM. Creative Writing Club is a space for writers ages 10 and up to work on writing projects, collaborate with other writers, share and receive feedback from other participants, and join in on mini writing games and workshops.



[Area College & Job Fairs](#)

[College Fairs of Greater Denver](#)

[College Application Deadlines](#)



[Recent GT Articles & Podcasts](#)

[Normal Sucks](#) Parent Engagement Network features Jonathan Mooney

[Uniquely Human](#) New podcast about neurodiversity

[The Kids Should See This](#) **Smart videos for curious minds of all ages**

[How to Help Students Plan](#) **Executive functioning coach Seth Perler**

[When is it Safe to Be Smart?](#) **Gifted Challenges**



Newsletter Links

For Parents New to GT - Jeffco GT Dept. Info and GT 101 - Parent Info - Student Programs & Enrichment - Scholarships - College Prep - National GT Resources

[Jefferson County Association for Gifted Children \(JAGC\)](#) is a nonprofit group providing leadership and support to families and educators of advanced learners in Jefferson County, Colorado. Jeffcogifted.org

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