

<p>PALMER LAKE 763-561-1930</p> 	<p>MRS. MOE'S TALENT DEVELOPMENT ACADEMIC CHALLENGE GIFTED SUPPORT (TAG) <u>NEWSLETTER</u> <a href="mailto:MOEROBIN@DISTRICT279.ORG">MOEROBIN@DISTRICT279.ORG</a> September 2018</p>	 <p>WOODLAND 763-315-6400</p>
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## Differentiation Ideas for Teachers

**Word Masters** a competition that happens three times a year for grades 3-6.

<http://www.wordmasterschallenge.com/what-is-the-wordmasters-challenge> The blog gives you numerous ideas for teaching the challenging words. I can share past tests and other materials to all interested. There are three meets, the first in November. Tests are in analogy format.

**Continental Math League** (CML) is for grades 2-9. It is designed to maximize students' opportunities to participate and to improve student's problem-solving skills. Meets are November-March 2018. Grades 2&3 have three 6 question tests starting in January. Grades 4-5 have 5 meets, 6 questions each meet, a half hour allowed. The cost of this competition is covered by the district. <http://www.cmleague.com/product-category/cml/>

**Perennial Math.** This competition is for grades 3-6, and like CML challenges students to think critically, and solve challenging problems. This competition consists of four tests, beginning in November and ending in February. (6 questions, half hour given). Power points and other resources are provided by this company to teach the various strategies. The test can be taken and scored on-line. Names of high scorers are posted, and winners get plaques or dog tags and certificates.

<http://perennialmath.com/http://www.oatag.org/Resources/Documents/Perennial%20Math%20Competition.pdf>.

**Genius Hour** Students embark on an exciting journey to become an expert with a topic of their choice. The project is intended to engage even the most difficult students because it allows them a choice in their learning. Individuals collect information using electronic devices, computers, books, newspapers, or magazines. They may do research at home or in class or even the public library. All research can be kept within a single notebook along with easy to follow directions.

**Choice Boards** Give students the opportunity to participate in multiple tasks that allow them to practice skills they've learned in class or to demonstrate and extend their understanding of concepts. From the tic-tac-toe board, students either choose or are assigned three adjacent or diagonal tasks to complete. Choice boards address student readiness, interest, or learning preferences. They are easily adapted to a subject area.

**Vocabulary Activities** Hooks students on words as they discover the history, categories, and how to build strong, insightful sentences. Students are provided Etymologies activities, Vocabulary Builder charts, and/or Super Sentences projects to increase vocabulary development.

**Skipping Stones** is a nonprofit print magazine that strives to encourage "communication, cooperation, creativity and celebration of cultural and environmental richness." They publish writers -- both children and adults -- from all over the world. Children from ages 7 to 17 may enter. Works may be in any language and may even be bilingual. They publish work that promotes multicultural, international and nature awareness. There is a \$4 entry fee, but it is waived for subscribers and for low-income entrants. Every entrant will receive a copy of the issue that publishes the winning entries. For more information go to: <http://www.skippingstones.org/youthhonor-02.htm>

**Teachers:** Please know that I am happy to assist with any differentiation needs or desires you might have for your classroom. We can consider content, products, processes, environment and/or assessment practices that work best for you and your learners. I am eager to help you discover strategies and techniques for everyone in your room; not just those formally identified as gifted. Feel free to contact me with dates and times to meet and discuss how I can help you.

## IMPORTANT TESTING INFORMATION FOR ALL PARENTS

The Osseo 279 school district purchased the new Cog AT 7 which is computerized and produces immediate results. This test is given in the fall to all 3<sup>rd</sup> graders. Results will determine placement in Gifted Education programs for the 2018-19 school year.

### MCGT CHAT Night: Getting Our Kids to 'A'

**Date**

Tuesday, September 25, 2018

**Time**

6:30 – 8:30pm

**Location**

Oak-Land Middle School Room 101A

**Email**

[stcroixvalley@mcgt.net](mailto:stcroixvalley@mcgt.net)

**Detailed Description of Event.**

Join St. Croix Valley Gifted to talk about how we — caregivers and educators — help or hinder kids' efforts to be life-long learners.

Topic: MCGT CHAT: Getting Our Kids to 'A' – Download Flyer (color or grayscale .pdf)

When: Tuesday 9/25, 6:30 – 8:30pm

Where: Oak-Land Middle School, Room 101A – 820 Manning Ave. N., Lake Elmo

Resources: Access the intro readings and the Mind Matters Podcast interview with Jim Delisle (Episode 9)

Contact: [stcroixvalley@mcgt.net](mailto:stcroixvalley@mcgt.net)

Note: Childcare is not available for this event

Nationally known GT expert and educator Dr. Jim Delisle is a scheduled guest at NAGC Family Day right here in the Twin Cities this November. Delisle pushes back on the “classic underachiever” label, noting a range of factors that cause clever kids to disengage from school. There's hope to help kids change course and get them to 'A' — though he isn't talking report cards! Autonomy. Access. Advocacy. Alternatives. Aspirations. Approachable Educators.

**Relevant URLs**

[www.stcroixvalleygifted.net/sept25-getting-kids-to-a](http://www.stcroixvalleygifted.net/sept25-getting-kids-to-a)

### Growth Mindset Tip of the Month for Parents:

#### #1. Have daily learning discussions.

At dinner, in the car or at bedtime take time for both the kids and parents to share the answers to these types of questions:

“What did you learn to day?” (*I LOVE this – so much better than “How was your day?”*)

“What mistake did you make that taught you something?”

“What did you try hard at today?”

It's important says Dweck that I share what I learned, too. This models for kids that I learn new things every day, even learning from failures.

When children share, you can reply like this:

“You certainly did get smarter today.”

“I like the way you tried all kinds of strategies on that math problem until you finally got it right.”

“We all have different learning curves. It may take more time for you to catch on to this and be comfortable with this material, but I you keep at it like this you will.”

“Everyone learns in a different way. Let's keep trying to find the way that works for you.”

(These are direct quotes from *Mindset* by Carol S. Dweck, Ph.D.)

<http://imaginationoup.net/2014/09/17/help-child-unmotivated-growth-fixed-mindset/>

## MCGT Mini-Conference ~ Back to School Bursts!

Whether your child is navigating a transition, hoping for a different year than last year or excited to continue their gifted learner experiences, there are strategies that support your family. Start off your school year with this opportunity to learn, talk, and network with other parents, educators, professionals, and long-time advocates for gifted children.

**Organization & Study Skills Boot Camp** with Melissa Malen  
Learn Top 3 Skills in 60 Min!

**Setting Your Kids Up for Success** with Tina Van Erp  
Set the Foundation which can be Built on through the School Year!

**Putting the Fun back into Parenting** with Wendi Schirvar  
Increase Child's Cooperation and Functioning while Parenting Less!

**When:** Saturday, September 8, 2018, 9am to 12pm

**Where:** Edina Education Center, 3rd floor ~ 5701 Normandale Road, Edina, MN 55424.  
Registration outside of rooms 350-351

**Who:** All those interested in supporting gifted and 2E students – educators, parents, and other caregivers and professionals welcome!

**How:** Go to [www.mcgt.net](http://www.mcgt.net) and register online or register onsite on the day. Cash, check or charge accepted.

**Cost:** Suggested donation: *Members*, \$10, or 2 for \$15  
*Non-members*, \$20 per person (join online or onsite for member rate)

**Questions:** Email [info@mcgt.net](mailto:info@mcgt.net), or call (952) 848-4906

Additional information:  
Morning refreshments will be provided.

**Young Scientist Roundtable**  
**Tuesday, September 25, 2018**  
**7:00 – 8:00 p.m.**  
**Central Middle School Auditorium**  
**305 Vicksburg Lane North, Plymouth**

### ***Listening to Rock: Seismology at the Microscale***

Joseph F. Labuz, Ph.D.  
University of Minnesota  
Department of Civil, Environmental, and Geo-Engineering

We can think about fracture at various scales. The very large scale is an earthquake, and we often see its destructive effects. In Dr. Labuz's lab at the University of Minnesota, they study microcracks that are millimeters in size with the goal of using waves called acoustic emission to evaluate how rock breaks. This understanding is useful in designing more economical ways to excavate rock and in protecting workers in underground mines.

Joseph F. Labuz, Ph.D., is a professor in and head of the Department of Civil, Environmental, and Geo-Engineering at the University of Minnesota.

### **Roundtable Part 2**

8:10 – 8:40 p.m.

Students are invited to meet with the speaker after the presentation to discuss the topic in more depth.

