

September 2009

Carrollton-Farmers Branch Association
for the Gifted & Talented

Join Now for 2009-2010 Year!
WWW.CFBGifted.org

The Gifted Gazette September

Welcome back to school and to C-FB AGT !

Celebrate C-FB AGT 's 30th BIRTHDAY!



In 1979 visionary parents banded together to create a parent support and advocacy group. From this modest assembly, C-FB AGT was born. Thanks to involved and committed parents, teachers and administrators our children can excel.

What does C-FB AGT do?

- Provide resources for parents and educators via our monthly email of The Gifted Gazette. (This will only be sent to members after December 1st).
- Provide scholarships for students to attend summer programs related to academics or arts.
- Fund deserving teachers through The Suzy Hagar Fund for Gifted Education (an endowed fund administered by the C-FB ISD Educational Foundation.)
- Recognize outstanding contributions through our Swan Awards.
- Network with "kindred spirit" parent organizations .
- Produce a Spring Symposium on Gifted Education for the benefit of parents, teachers and children.
- Post relevant information on our website www.CFBGifted.org open to all.

The education our children receive is only as good as what WE provide for them. We are their first teachers and their first advocates. In partnership with our educators, we can accomplish wonderful things.

Of course, the very best way to connect with C-FB AGT is to join our board. We need fresh minds and hands to help all our gifted kids.

Alex Sagcal, President
Timothy Isaly, Vice President

All Member Meetings!

September 17, Thursday—Fall Picnic— Gussie Waterworth Park—Farmers Branch.

Bring your families and dinner and come meet families from across the district, AGT board members and Advanced Academics Staff. C-FB AGT provides dessert and doorprizes. Quite informal and lots of fun!

Folks start arriving around 5 p.m. and should break up around 7:30 p.m. Raindate 9/24.

October 15, Thursday - Spotlight on the Academies and Welcome by Dr. Bobby Burns, Superintendent

TLC 2427 Carrick Street 7—8:30 p.m.

C-FB ISD provides unique opportunities for its high school students. In addition to a traditional high school curriculum at the 4 campuses, C-FB ISD offers 5 "Academies," a Pathway program and the International Baccalaureate Programme.

This evening will be ideal for students and parents who want some insight into these opportunities.

R.L.Turner's campus is home to:

METSA (Math Engineering Technology and Science Academy)

AMAT (Academy for Media Arts & Technology)

Academy of BioMedical Professions

Newman Smith hosts:

International Business Academy

Engineering Pathways Program

Creekview offers:

Law and Criminal Justice Academy

Ranchview provides:

International Baccalaureate Programme

After a brief overview by each program,, families will be able to rotate among the tables of those programs that most interest their students. Refreshments, of course!

There will be *very limited* childcare for elementary-aged children. They will be able to read a book under the supervision of teen volunteers.

AGT CAMPOUT!!

This Fall's CFB-AGT campout will occur in the Tyler State Park. We have three sites reserved for November 13, 14, and 15 in the Cedar Point Tent and Trailer Camping area. You can access State Park details by going to this link:

[<http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/spdest/finadadest/parks/tyler/>]

There are plenty of bike and hiking trails. The water will be cold but I am sure a few hardy polar bears will brave the temperatures for a quick swim. Below are two activities that will take place on our camping weekend.

Let's Go Birding!— We'll go on an easy to moderate hike to find where the birds are, observe them in the wild so you can add them to your lists. Bring binoculars, a field guide and comfortable shoes.

Tyler SP — Raccoons!— See one up close! Learn about these curious creatures of the night - the food they eat, the sounds they make and why we should *not* feed them.

Anyone is welcome. Please call Timothy Isaly (972) 922-5126 for reservation details. Four families have already signed up. We can accommodate more!

C-FB AGT Officers

The elected officers for the 2009-2010 term and campuses they work at or have children on are:

- President: Alex Sagcal (Perry Middle School)
- Vice President: Tim Isaly (Newman Smith HS and Country Place)
- Treasurer: Lisa Johnson (Polk Middle School)
- Secretary: Linda Mahony (Newman Smith)
- Membership – Sharon Mistry (McCoy, Las Colinas)
- Co-hospitality: Beth Martini (Las Colinas) & Mary Hawkins (Perry, Blanton, McCoy)
- Webmaster: Jim Donahue (McCoy)
- E-blast/Newsletter: Mary Lovell (Perry)
- Legislative: Melissa Marsh (Perry)
- Parliamentarian: Carol Franzen (McCoy)
- Scholarships and Awards: Barbara Russell (Las Colinas)
- AAS representatives: Gerry Charlebois and Tina Flatt

If you are interested in helping us please contact Alex Sagcal at President@CFBGifted.org

Gifted Education in C-FB ISD-highlights

- ✓ Students are **cluster-grouped** and taught by a teacher of record with **credentials in gifted education**.
- ✓ The curriculum is **differentiated**. This means that while the curriculum must comply with TEA/District standards, ACE/LEAP students explore the subjects with more depth and complexity.
- ✓ Elementary students should receive an **ACE or LEAP report card** in addition to the standard district report card every 9 weeks.
- ✓ Each campus has a teacher designated as the **“GT Liaison.”**
- ✓ Each campus has an assigned **Specialist** from the Department of Advanced Academic Services. These professionals provide assistance and resources to faculty, staff and parents.
- ✓ Each campus should have **two informational meetings each school year** for families of gifted students.

Meet the AAS Team

These are the professionals in Advanced Academic Services and the campuses they proudly serve:

Gerry Charlebois is the Executive Director of AAS.

Trista Anderson, Specialist: Vivien Field, Dan F. Long, Ted Polk, Mary Grimes, Bea Salazar & Ranchview High School.

Pat Cole: Specialist LEAP Screening Perry & McCoy.

Tina Flatt, Specialist. Blanton, Carrollton, Farmers Branch, Good, La Villita, McWhorter, Montgomery, Stark, Blair & Bush.

Patty Parker, Specialist. High schools: Creekview, Newman Smith, R.L.Turner. Early College High School program.

Sheri Plybon, Specialist. Central, Country Place, Davis, Furneaux, Landry, McKamy, McLaughlin, Strickland, Sheffield Primary, Sheffield Intermediate & Thompson .

Carol Schelp, Specialist. Freeman, Kent, Las Colinas, McCoy, Rainwater, Riverchase, Rosemeade & Perry.

AAS staff members also have responsibilities for the Academic Decathlon, Pre-AP and AP programs, UIL, Destination Imagination, Creative Problem Solving, Invent America and other competitions that encourage academics.

These professionals are supported by **Ruth Houser**, the Secretary for Professional Records and **Jeanne D’Amico**, Department Manager.

AAS reports to Assistant Superintendent-Curriculum & Instruction, **Dr. Sheila Maher**.

More information about the departments, programs and staff can be found at: <http://cfbstaff.cfbisd.edu/cfbgiftedandtalented/>