



## C-FB AGT Gifted Gazette

Newsletter of Carrollton-Farmers Branch Association for the Gifted & Talented

P.O. Box 111702 Carrollton, TX 75011-1702

[www.CFBGifted.org](http://www.CFBGifted.org)

May 2008

### Dr. D “Wows” Symposium 2008

Dr. Jim Delisle shared stories, advice and insights with over 120 parents attending the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Spring Symposium April 12<sup>th</sup>.

With over 30 years of experience teaching and researching the field of gifted education, Jim Delisle’s insights comforted us that we are not alone, and provided resources and ideas to help.

One of his ‘takeaways’ was to *really listen* to what our kids are saying and sharing, allow them options but provide guidance. He reinforced the importance of providing programs that meet their unique social and emotional needs as well as their academic needs. He offered concrete suggestions for parents.

His advice included to strike the words ‘bored’ and ‘not challenged’ from our vocabularies. Why? Because they are too vague and not often fully descriptive of the problem. When a child proclaims school is ‘too boring’ we as parents need to investigate this seriously with the child to discern what is going on:

- “Is the work too easy? Too hard? (each can cause ‘boredom’)”
- Irrelevant to life outside of school?
- Not an area of personal interest?

If your child is unable or unwilling to pinpoint the causes of the boredom or its solution, present to him or her this reality: “I can only help you if you give me some examples – being bored is just too vague.”

How many times have we considered approaching a teacher or had the ‘flagpole’ talks with other parents that our kids are “bored” without really knowing ourselves what that meant?

He encouraged us to become more informed about what gifted is (and isn’t) and to know more about how to meet their social and emotional, as well as their academic needs.

The last chapter in his book spoke volumes to me: “Life is not a race to see who can get to the end the fastest.” He elaborates: “Taking each day as it comes, seeing triumph and disappointment as simply stepping stones to all the tomorrows that lie ahead is a lesson you can teach your gifted kids every morning as they awake...”

Life in the ‘gifted’ world involves balancing the fact that, in many ways our kids are not ‘normal’ – and in many ways they are.

Mary Lovell



### JOIN C-FB AGT NOW FOR 2008-2009

Check the website, print out the form and send it in. You’ll be included in e-blasts and news as school begins in the Fall. Check the website for information you can use! C-FB AAS &

C-FB AGT will be offering parent discussion groups modeled after the SENG Model Parent Groups!

Keep in touch!

### Nancy White is 2008 SWAN Award Winner

Mrs. White is the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade LEAP teacher at McCoy Elementary and has taught in our district for over 12 years. Mrs. White is the ‘lead’ LEAP teacher and provides leadership and mentoring for her counterparts. She inspires others to enter the profession of teaching and is a wonderful role model.

Her nominating letter shared: “Mrs. White’s passion for teaching and for teaching these LEAP students is amazing. When my daughter was in second grade ... one mom of a then-fourth grader said: *“If you thought these teachers were wonderful, just wait until you get to third grade and have Mrs. White. She will make you feel your child is the most special student she has ever taught!”* What became clear to me is that not only does Nancy White convey that exact sense, but that she truly **believes** it. Each of the students in Nancy’s class feels special, **because to her they are.**”

Mrs. White will receive acknowledgment of this award by the School Board at its **June 4<sup>th</sup> meeting.**

Congratulations Mrs. White!!



### C-FB AGT Elects Officers at Symposium

The elected officers for the 2008-2009 term will be:

President: Alex Sagcal

Vice President: Tim Isaly

Treasurer: Kathy Duda

Secretary: Linda Mahony

**Volunteers are needed to serve in appointed positions**, including those willing to ‘team’ with a current board member to learn the ropes and provide a smooth transition in 2008.

**Please contact Alex Sagcal if you’re interested or have questions: [president@CFBGifted.org](mailto:president@CFBGifted.org)**

### NATIONAL PARENTING THE GIFTED WEEK

The 3<sup>rd</sup> week in July has been officially designated as **Parenting the Gifted Week**. Each day will focus attention on a particular area of interest to parents of gifted and talented children. This year the daily topics will be:

- Challenges of Parenting Gifted Children
- “Underachievement” Issues
- Advocacy for Gifted Children – Teaming with Educators and Legislators
- Identifying and Recognizing Giftedness
- Special Issues for Gifted Minorities, Gifted Boys and Gifted Girls
- Misdiagnosis, Depression and Suicide in Gifted Youth
- Parenting Support and Resources.

Check SENG’s website for more information.

Web Resources: Texas Association for the Gifted and Talented – [www.TXgifted.org](http://www.TXgifted.org)

Supporting Emotional Needs of the Gifted – [www.SENGifted.org](http://www.SENGifted.org)

Hoagies Gifted Education Page – [www.hoagiesgifted.org](http://www.hoagiesgifted.org)

### News from Advanced Academic Services

Dear Parents of Gifted Students,

Another year has galloped by! We just completed administering over 2,400 Advanced Placement exams! This is an increase of more than 13% from last year. More and more high school students are seeking the challenge of rigorous courses and strive to receive college credit.

We have two authorized IB campuses – Ranchview High School and Good Elementary. The International Baccalaureate programs offer a continuum of education and encourage a positive attitude to learning. The IB student is taught to ask challenging questions, to critically reflect, to develop research skills, to learn how to learn, and to participate in community service. We are proud to offer the continuum of K-12 education in the IB program, beginning with the Primary Years Program (PYP) at Good Elementary and soon to add Las Colinas Elementary, followed by the Middle Years Program (MYP) at Bush Middle School, and the Diploma Program (DP) at Ranchview. Not many school districts offer all three programs.

**SAGE** (Summer Academy of Gifted Education) will begin Monday, June 16<sup>th</sup> at Kent Elementary. It will end July 11<sup>th</sup>. There are still some openings in Kinder through 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Students will be learning Spanish, playing math games, creating models of the earth, building lego-robotics, and so much more. It is four weeks of learning and fun!

Please be assured, my door is always open if you have questions or concerns. Thank you and have a restful summer.

Appreciatively,  
Gerry Charlebois, Executive Director  
Advanced Academic Services  
charleboisg@cfbisd.edu



### Gifted Education Resources in C-FB ISD

C-FB ISD's Department of Advanced Academic Services' mission is to design a quality education for all students and support the unique needs of gifted learners. Gerry Charlebois, the Executive Director leads this department. AAS professionals provide leadership and support for LEAP, ACE, Advanced Placement, Pre-AP, Academic Decathlon, Destination Imagination, SAGE, PSAT and SAT prep classes and the International Baccalaureate Programme ("IB") throughout the district's 39 campuses and educational centers. AAS specialists each have responsibility for between 4 and 7 campuses in addition to other projects such as curriculum development and training and leadership in organizations supporting gifted or public education. They work closely with each campus GT Liaison, principal and counselor to ensure the needs of gifted students are met.

Each campus also has a faculty member who serves as the "GT Liaison" for the faculty and students on the campus. The campus GT Liaison serves as a contact point bringing information and resources to the campus, including news about training, programs and the C-FB AGT Fall newsletter and Symposium registrations. Each campus principal is responsible for executing the programs designed for gifted students (ACE & LEAP) on his/her campus.

Components of ACE include students cluster-grouped with other ACE students in their classroom. Their teacher of record is GT certified and the curriculum is differentiated to provide more depth and complexity. ACE students also receive an "ACE Report Card" in addition to the regular report card. If parents have any questions or concerns about their child's grouping, curriculum or ACE report card, they are encouraged to visit with their classroom teacher, principal or the AAS Specialist assigned to their campus. The AAS Specialist is trained to address questions related to identification, assessment, curriculum, social/emotional aspects and performs an important support role for parents and students. See the AAS website for more information at <http://cfbstaff.cfbisd.edu/cfbgiftedandtalented/>

C-FB AGT is an independent parent organization working closely with AAS to ensure gifted students and their parents receive appropriate academic and social/emotional support. If any member has questions or concerns, you may also contact a board member or send an email in through the CFB AGT website and we will strive to address your concerns.



Web Resources: Texas Association for the Gifted and Talented – [www.TXgifted.org](http://www.TXgifted.org)  
Supporting Emotional Needs of the Gifted – [www.SENGifted.org](http://www.SENGifted.org)  
Hoagies Gifted Education Page – [www.hoagiesgifted.org](http://www.hoagiesgifted.org)

**C-FB AGT Awards Scholarship for Summer Programs**

C-FB AGT received a record breaking number of applicants for scholarships to attend summer programs. We are pleased to make the following awards to these deserving students.

<u>Student</u>	<u>School - Grade</u>	<u>Summer Program</u>
Amit Banerjee	McCoy - 4th	UTD Chess
Andi Britton	Rosemeade - 2nd	High School Musical Art & Production
Alexis Bynum	Field - 6th	Lone Star Leadership
Camile Castro	Stark - K	SAGE
Daniela Castro	Stark - 3rd	SAGE
Garrick Chui	Good - 5th	SAGE
Francis Burns Cooper	Las Colinas - 5th	SAGE
Laura Lagunez	Polk - 8th	UTA Jr. Cello Academy
Jiwon Lee	McKamy - K	SAGE
Bonnie Lewis	Long - 6th	Lone Star Leadership
Natalie Manning	Smith - 9th	All-State Choir Camp
Katie Martini	Las Colinas - 3rd	DI Challenge
Michelle Neuman	Field - 6th	Lone Star Leadership
Fabian Orgega	Thompson - 5th	SAGE
Mercedes Paredes	Blair - 3rd	SAGE
Jun Park	McKamy 3rd	SAGE
Carson Pope	Perry 6th	SAGE
Ruben Ramirez	Blair - 3rd	SAGE
Amber Sanchez	Good- 1st	SAGE
McKenzie Starr	McKamy - 3rd	SAGE
Dylan Suriadinata	Riverchase - K	SAGE
Tiffany Suriadinata	McCoy 3rd	SAGE
Jennifer Suriadinata	Riverchase - 2nd	SAGE
Clotilde Tagnon	McCoy - 2nd	Kids Arts - Irving Art Center
Brooke Viegut	Perry - 6th	Lone Star Leadership
Silvia Villanueva Watanabe	Bush - 8th	Hidden Creek Farm
Akihiro Yoshimoto	Las Colinas -1st	SAGE
Masumi Yoshimoto	Las Colinas - 4th	SAGE
Takahiro Yoshimoto	Bush - 6th	Junior Summer Math -San Marcos
James Yow	McCoy - K	SAGE

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