

**C-FB AGT Gifted Gazette**  
**Newsletter of Carrollton-Farmers Branch Association for the Gifted & Talented**  
**P.O. Box 111702 Carrollton, TX 75011**  
[www.CFBGifted.org](http://www.CFBGifted.org)

Summer 2006

### Symposium 2006 Soars!

Thank you to the many helping hands and hearts that made **Spring Symposium 2006: Helping Gifted Kids Soar** so successful. Dr. Sylvia Rimm was a terrific keynote speaker. Her practical advice to parents had many in the audience nodding their heads. Over 253 adults and students representing 19 of the district's 35 campuses attended, bought books, listened, learned and shared. Thank you also to the teen volunteers from DeWitt Perry, Newman Smith & Hockaday.

#### Thank You to our Symposium Donors

Carrollton-Farmers Branch Rotary

for its generous support of scholarships;

Gift certificates were donated by

Bob's Steak & Chop House - Dallas, Bob and Judi Sambol, Owners

MiPiaci Ristorante Italiano - Brian and Sonia Black, Owners

Chow Thai - Vinnie and Sam Virasin, Owners

Clay Pit Contemporary Indian Cuisine - Renu Saini, Owner

Boi Na Braza Brazilian Steakhouse - Neimar Hensel, General Manager

Inside and Out - Richard and Laurie Fantine, Owners  
High School and Parent Volunteers for their time and talent.



Dr. Rimm shared insight gained from research and her clinical experiences. Her books provide additional insight and tips. Check them out from our public libraries or from the Advanced Academic Services Library - and please return them so others can benefit! Here is a tidbit:

#### Rimm's Laws

- I. Children are more likely to be achievers if their parents join together to give the same clear and positive message about school effort and expectations.

- II. Children can learn appropriate behaviors more easily if they have an effective model to imitate.
- III. Communication about children between adults within the children's hearing dramatically affects children's behaviors and self-perception.
- IV. Overreaction by parents to children's successes and failures lends them to feel either intense pressure to succeed or despair and discouragement in dealing with failure.
- V. Children feel more tension when they are worrying about their work than when they are doing that work!
- VI. Children develop self-confidence through struggle.
- VII. Deprivation and excess frequently exhibit the same symptoms.
- VIII. Children develop confidence and an internal sense of control if power is given to them in gradually increasing increments as they show maturity and responsibility.
- IX. Children become oppositional if one adult allies with them against a parent or teacher, making them more powerful than an adult.
- X. Adults should avoid confrontations with children unless they are sure they can control the outcomes.
- XI. Children will become achievers only if they learn to function in competition.
- XII. Children will continue to achieve if they usually see the relationship between the learning process and its outcomes.

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*Why Bright Kids Get Poor Grades* [www.sylviarimm.com](http://www.sylviarimm.com)

### Congratulations to Dr. Annette Griffin & Carla Crutsinger, Swan 2006 Winners

Each year C-FB AGT presents the Swan Award to a person, or persons, who have made significant contributions in the area of gifted education. The nominee may be anyone involved in the Gifted and Talented Program, parents, educators or community members. C-FB AGT chose the swan to symbolize this honor because it is graceful, and strong and loyal. The swan will fight to protect its young from predators - even man. We think of the strength and loyalty that must be shared to support gifted education.

It is fitting, that this year we honor **Superintendent Dr. Annette Griffin** and **Carla Crutsinger**. Dr. Griffin's leadership has helped gifted children receive essential services during her tenure. Carla Crutsinger founded C-FB AGT nearly 26 years ago and remains a passionate supporter of children. Thank you for your tireless service. They will be honored at the School Board meeting on May 25<sup>th</sup>.

## Senator and Mayors Honor Gifted Education

Saturday April 8<sup>th</sup> was declared "**Gifted and Talented Education Day**" in Farmers Branch, Carrollton and Irving by mayoral proclamations. Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison also sent the following letter:

Dear Parents, Teachers and Students:

I am pleased to extend greetings and best wishes to those attending the C-FB ISD's Annual Spring Symposium for the Gifted and Talented.

Students, I would like to commend you on your dedication to your studies and for participating in the Gifted and Talented program. I encourage you all to continue to set worthy goals and work to achieve them. You will be among the future leaders of our state and nation, and the education foundation you receive will allow you to meet exciting opportunities and challenges that await you.

Education is the key to our future, and our nation's youth are our most treasured resource. Thank you for all you are doing to meet the promise of our future. I wish you continued success in your future endeavors.

Sincerely,  
Kay Bailey Hutchison

In honor of our children and symposium, a flag flew over the U.S. Capitol on April 8, 2006. C-FB AGT will present this flag to the School Board. Thank you to Senator Hutchison and Bipasha Mukherjee for arranging this honor.



*"People have talents in various areas, but if those talents aren't developed, they're not going to mean anything."*

Psychologist Frank Worrell, PhD APA

### Short News

**End the Year with Games! May 12<sup>th</sup>** - final Game Night of School Year. Bring games, snacks and have fun.

**De Witt Perry Middle School. 6 p.m. -9 p.m.** Thank you to David Culp and Principal Joe LaPuma for opening Perry's cafeteria one more time. All children must attend with an adult. In March over 85 people enjoyed an evening of games with their children at DeWitt Perry. So many families helped straighten up the cafeteria afterwards, it was as good as new in a flash!

### C-FB AGT 2006-2007 Officers

The following were elected at our general membership meeting April 8, 2006 :  
President – Mary Lovell  
Vice President – Laurie Fantine  
Treasurer – Jan Waggoner  
Secretary – Karen Viegut

### Join C-FB AGT 2006-2007

C-FB AGT's membership year runs from August through July. At the March meeting, the Board voted that **any memberships received after symposium would automatically apply to the following school year**. This change will ensure that members who join after symposium receive full value for their dues. It also builds our membership e-news list before the next school year.

Membership forms are available at [www.cfbgifted.org](http://www.cfbgifted.org) **Remember to update your child's campus and grade for the 2006-7 school year on this form!**

### Volunteers Keep Us Running!

C-FB AGT is an 'all volunteer army' of parents and educators who want to make a positive difference in the lives of our kids. You can serve as an appointed officer on the board, or as a member of a team. You can volunteer throughout the year, or for a specific event. Examples include: scholarship/awards committee, book reviewer, hospitality, and many more. Network with other families of gifted kids and get the scoop on what's going on. If you are interested in helping during 2006-07, please share your talents, area of interest in an email to [cfb\\_agt\\_president@yahoo.com](mailto:cfb_agt_president@yahoo.com).

### Need ideas for summer activities?

Kristin Eoff compiled a list of resources which was available at symposium with lots of material from the camps. C-FB AGT members will receive this list via our e-blast. Thank you Kristin. [www.cfbgifted.org](http://www.cfbgifted.org) also has some ideas, which will be updated using Kristin's work. Also check out [www.hebagt.org](http://www.hebagt.org) for a spreadsheet. If your child participates in a great summer activity, please share. Have them write a short news story for possible publication in The Gifted Gazette. Email [cfb\\_agt\\_president@yahoo.com](mailto:cfb_agt_president@yahoo.com)



### Thoughts on Summer from our Director of Advanced Academic Services

Summer time, and the livin' is easy....perhaps. May is already here and summer is just around the corner. For some that may mean a slower pace, but parents might be looking for summer opportunities for your children to continue their learning.

Our fourth year of SAGE (Summer Academy of Gifted Education) begins on June 5<sup>th</sup> and continues through June 30<sup>th</sup>. This is an opportunity for students to participate in a challenging experience utilizing a specially designed interdisciplinary curriculum. Through the richness of the curriculum and the highly experienced staff, students will receive academic rigor, integrated with problem solving. **Registration for students entering 1<sup>st</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade will be at Polk Middle School on May 23<sup>rd</sup> from 4-6 p.m.**

All current CFB **high school students should have a password to access the SAT Online Readiness Program.** Each of the four high schools has this online resource to help your student prepare for the SAT and college curriculum. This program features engaging interactive instruction, three full length practice tests, hundreds of practice questions with answer explanations, and receive immediate auto scoring of essays. What a better way for your teen to spend a morning before going outside to bask in the sun!

Here are a couple of good websites for parents of gifted children. They offer books, resources, and good advice for parenting practices to support gifted kids. The newsletter is in several languages, English, Spanish, Chinese, and Korean. We know, "Parents have a lasting educational effect on their children."

[http://www.aboutourkids.org/aboutour/parent\\_letter/2006/english\\_parent\\_letter\\_april\\_06.pdf](http://www.aboutourkids.org/aboutour/parent_letter/2006/english_parent_letter_april_06.pdf)

<http://specialed.about.com/od/giftedness/tp/gift.htm>

We all are working together for our students' success. Have a great summer!

Gerry Charlebois



### From Symposium – Some Points to Consider

#### Goldilocks and the Three Bears of Parental Support – Dr. Lee Alvoid

*Based on Beyond the Cornucopia Kids, by Bruce Baldwin*

##### The Hidden Keys to Success

- Parents must help their children develop internal security and personal self-reliance
- Children must learn a sense of personal accountability
- Parents must help their children develop healthy achievement motivation
- Your children must develop a positive relationship to the work world
- Teaching good manners and social sensitivity is a must!
- Sound money management skills should begin early in life
- A well-developed ability to relax and play is taught by parents



#### Fostering Creativity in Your Home – Wendy Conklin – mentis online

*"To live creatively is to imagine the possibilities, stay zestful and grow."*

Willy Wonka

#### Fun Ideas To Try as a Family

- do something different every day
- do something risky/new
- family journal time
- rewrite favorite stories/poems
- sketch in a park
- invent a game for your family to play
- read and go to bookstores for scavenger hunt
- create new family traditions: family portrait
- mealtime question of the day

- video tape a play created by your family

##### Websites:

Invent America (K-8) [www.inventamerica.org](http://www.inventamerica.org)

Christopher Columbus Awards (grades 6-8)

[www.christophercolumbusawards.com/intro.htm](http://www.christophercolumbusawards.com/intro.htm)

Magazines:

Crinkles (ages 7-11) [www.crinkles.com](http://www.crinkles.com)

Creative Kids Magazine (ages 8-14) [www.prufrock.com](http://www.prufrock.com)

[www.criticalthinking.com](http://www.criticalthinking.com)

Web Resources: The National Research Center on the Gifted & Talented - [www.gifted.uconn.edu/nrcgt.html](http://www.gifted.uconn.edu/nrcgt.html)

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

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