



Minnesota Council
for the Gifted & Talented

"On Behalf of Gifted Kids..." Annual Conference

**Saturday, November 4, 2017
Robbinsdale Middle School
Robbinsdale Area Schools
Robbinsdale, MN**

Minnesota Council for the Gifted and Talented
5701 Normandale Rd., #315
Edina, MN 55424
www.mcgt.net (952) 848-4906

Robbinsdale Area Schools





STATE of MINNESOTA

Proclamation

- WHEREAS: Young people are Minnesota's most valuable resource—they are critical to the future of our state; and
- WHEREAS: Education should foster the development of leadership skills, creativity, academic abilities, and artistic talents; and
- WHEREAS: The State of Minnesota and its education system play a key role in nurturing our students; and
- WHEREAS: Minnesota is blessed with gifted and talented children, whose full potential can only be reached through the cooperation of educators, families, communities, and government; and
- WHEREAS: Development of each individual's intellectual and creative powers ensures the challenges of the future can be met.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK DAYTON, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim the week of October 29-November 4, 2017, as:


GIFTED AND TALENTED YOUTH WEEK

in the State of Minnesota.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed at the State Capitol this 20th day of October.




GOVERNOR



SECRETARY OF STATE

ON BEHALF OF GIFTED KIDS...

Once again, that's the theme for the Minnesota Council for the Gifted and Talented (MCGT) Annual Conference on Saturday, November 4, 2017. The focus will be on gifted children and the importance of advocacy for them in educational settings, in the community and with decision-making groups such as the legislature. The Robbinsdale Area Schools are hosting and co-sponsoring the gathering on its Robbinsdale Middle School campus. And it wouldn't have all happened without the help of lots of volunteers - thank you!

MCGT is a state-wide non-profit membership organization dedicated to promoting better understanding of, and educational services for, gifted and talented children and their families. MCGT provides information, literature and referral services, publishes a bi-monthly newsletter, conducts occasional topical seminars and informational fairs, hosts a moderated email group for members, sponsors an annual state conference with special children's program, and promotes advocacy at all levels for gifted and talented children. Chapters and CHAT Nights throughout the state provide additional opportunities for local activities and support.

MCGT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President - Carol Malueg
Vice President - Teresa Boatman
Treasurer - Lynn Norby
Secretary - Jennifer Farner
Advocacy Project - Katherine Geary
Newsletter and Conference - Open
Volunteer Coordinator - Jolene Gleason
Parent Group & Chapter Liaison - Loran Meccia
At-Large - Martha Palm
At-Large - Karl Bunday
Social Media - Open
Organizational Outreach - Open

MCGT STAFF

Office - Jennifer Farner & Aileen White
Bookkeeper - Grace Ware

MCGT SPECIAL PROJECTS

Webmaster - Tony Rinkenberger
Conference Co-Chair - Shari Colvin

MCGT Honorary Board Member

Wendy Behrens

Board Member Emeritus

Betty Johnson

Save the Dates

Saturday, April 14, 2018

MCGT Mini-Conference: Gifted 101 for those who are seeking basic information regarding parenting and/or educating gifted children

January 28-30, 2018

Minnesota Educators of the Gifted and Talented (MEGT) Mid-Winter Conference
at Cragun's Resort on Gull Lake

November 15-18, 2018

National Association for Gifted Children (NAGC) Annual Convention
in Minneapolis, MN

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

AUDITORIUM SELF-REGULATION FOR GIFTED LEARNERS: A PARENT'S ROLE

Many people believe that students who are successful in school possess greater degrees of intelligence and ability, while those who are not successful possess less intelligence and ability. However, significant research on school and life performance suggests that what matters more than intelligence and ability is a set of qualities such as persistence, self-control, curiosity, self-confidence and true grit (determination). These qualities, generally referred to as self-regulation, have a substantial effect on how motivated, engaged and focused the learner is toward achieving meaningful goals. This session will briefly explain the foundations of self-regulation and how it is developed. Parents will be offered useful and practical strategies to help their children be better prepared for the complexities of the 21st century.

Presenter: **Richard Cash**

BREAK-OUT SESSION I

10:45 - 11:45 A.M.

AUDITORIUM EXPLORING DIFFERENT TYPES OF LEARNERS: HELPING GIFTED LEARNERS LEARN HOW TO BE FLEXIBLY

Everyone learns differently. How we approach learning and school can have a significant effect on achievement and enjoyment. Knowing the various ways children orient toward learning and performance can provide ways to assist them in and out of the classroom. This session will offer evidence-based learning orientations along with options for differentiation and support to address the learners' needs. Find out why some students succeed in school while others lag behind. Using learning orientations can be helpful in understanding selective producers, under-performance, 2e students and the social/emotional needs of all students.

Presenter: **Richard Cash**

ROOM 132 UNDERSTANDING THE PSYCHOLOGY OF PERFECTIONISM AND ITS ANTIDOTES

How do we encourage kids to "be all they can be," in our increasingly perfectionistic, winner-take-all culture, without creating perfectionists? Dealing with perfectionism begins with an understanding of its psychology. Perfectionism is a self esteem issue; making mistakes implies personal defectiveness and possible rejection. The pursuit of excellence is vitalizing; perfectionism's inseparable dark side is the intense anxiety about never being good enough. Perfectionism is not part of giftedness, though gifted kids can be vulnerable. Find out about the psychology of perfectionism and how best to create an environment in which perfectionism can be overcome, or avoided.

Presenter: **Tom Greenspon**

ROOM 136 GIFTED AND HAVING A LEARNING DISABILITY: A PERSONAL PARENTING JOURNEY

Many gifted and intelligent children have special circumstances (ADHD, Learning disabilities, mental health barriers, sensory issues) that prevent them from living up to their full potential. And I know about this first hand - I have known my son has been twice exceptional since he was in 4th grade, but before that our family sought the advice of mental health professional, learning specialists, various schools and teachers, doing thousands of dollars of testing and more, to get Paul where he is today. I would like to share my personal journey in the hopes that anything I have learned can help others have a less painful experience for their child. Let's explore the basics of being twice exceptional and review practical advice for helping parents and educators on the challenges and opportunities that being twice-exceptional brings.

Presenter: **Erica Allenburg**

ROOM 229 PARENTING THE GIFTED WITH EMPATHY

In our polarizing society, developing the skill of empathy is more critical than ever. As parents, we have the unique opportunity to help develop compassionate children who will positively impact our communities. In this session, we will explore the topic of empathy, specifically as it relates to parenting the gifted and intense children in our lives. We will learn strategies and techniques to help ourselves and our families shift from a "me" mindset to a "we" mindset. Each participant will walk away with ideas and approaches that can be applied immediately and can have a positive impact on families and society.

Presenters: **Jill Hauwiler & Kris Happe**

ROOM 232 FOSTERING SELF-COMPASSION IN GIFTED INDIVIDUALS

Many gifted kids and adults are plagued by perfectionism, intense idealism, self-judgment, and low frustration tolerance. This session will reflect on typical psychosocial traits of gifted individuals that contribute to the challenges listed above. And more importantly, will introduce strategies for parents, educators, and other support professionals to help their gifted kids become more self-compassionate.

Presenter: **Heather Boorman**

ROOM 233 STRATEGIES TO INSURE ALL STUDENTS ACHIEVE/SUCCEED

- Experience a 21st Century vision of education and classroom interaction, as well as what your students will need to know and be able to do to insure employment and financial success. In this engaging conference session, I will share innovative, easy to implement strategies to successfully help students improve their learning ability, divergent thinking and cognitive skills. Classroom preparation and innovative, practical educator practices, skills needed in their future and more will be discussed. Participants will be asked to share their wisdom, experiences and personal or organizational successes.

Presenter: **Joseph Gulino**

ROOM 234 USING A STRENGTHS-BASED APPROACH TO BUILD CONNECTIONS AND UNDERSTANDING

- What if your child's stubbornness was really perseverance or sensitivity was perceptiveness or empathy? When was the last time you focused on what is "right" with your child or considered how these things could contribute to your child moving through life successfully? When parenting from a strengths-based perspective, things that might drive you crazy have the potential to be recognized and fostered in your child as strengths. This interactive session will include tips, tools and techniques for identifying some of the strengths of your child and your strengths as a parent. Learn how to use this understanding to be at your best as a parent in order to help your child be at her best.

Presenters: **Suz Feely & Robin Stubblefield**

ROOM 901 PARENT SMARTER! 5 STEP PLAN FOR EFFECTIVE PARENTING TO IMPROVE COMPLIANCE AND INCREASE BONDING! - Tired of repeating yourself, saying expectations over and over with little to no follow through on your child's part? Typically this results from a few variables that can quickly be overturned. Learn how to set appropriate expectations, develop family rules, build bonding and align consequences. You will learn to parent less for more success!

Presenter: **Wendi Schirvar**

ROOM 903 IF GIFTED KIDS ARE SO SMART, WHY CAN'T THEY JUST... - There are many "simple" daily tasks that can be difficult for some gifted kids. Research has shown that a child's impairments in executive functioning skills and a fixed mindset are often responsible for these difficulties. Executive Functioning skills and a growth mindset are shown to be significantly more important than IQ scores in determining success in daily life tasks, relationships and learning. Gifted children and teens may have significant challenges with self-calming, paying attention, initiating non-preferred or challenging tasks or keeping track of their things. And, they may have negative self-talk that defeats their efforts to improve their mood, accomplish goals or be flexible enough to do what is expected by others. This seminar provides research-based parenting strategies about how to coach gifted children to increase their resilience to challenges to improve their ability to learn and be successful in daily life. Resources and supportive materials will be provided to implement strategies at home and school.

Presenter: **Anne Tyler**

LUNCH SESSIONS 12:15-1:20 P.M.

GYM CONVERSATION WITH MN DEPT. OF EDUCATION SPECIALIST - Finding the Right Fit: Looking at School Options, Working with Your Child's School, or Ask Whatever You Wish....

Presenter: **Wendy Behrens**

GYM STRATEGIES FOR IMPROVING EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONING SKILLS USING HOUSEHOLD GAMES AND ACTIVITIES

- Join an active lunch of playful modeling of how to introduce and reinforce effective executive skills, improve communication and bonding, all while having fun with your children and teens!

Presenter: **Wendi Schirvar**

GYM TEACHING GIFTED CHILDREN ABOUT INVESTMENT AND SOLVING MONEY PROBLEMS - Since most gifted children grow up with parents who care for them financially, it can be a shock to that child to begin to think about and take responsibility for their own fiscal well-being. Most parents tend to put off discussions of investment and other money issues until their child is grown and has money to invest. My advice is not to wait that long. Gifted children can learn financial concepts quickly and remember very well, particularly when interested. They need to be taught in ways corresponding to their mental ability, learning style, interests, and what matters most. This presentation will discuss learning fundamentals early, understanding the market, avoiding financial pitfalls, and solving future money issues.

Presenter: **Stuart Dansinger**

ROOM 132 3 PILLARS OF PARENTING FOR PEACE AT HOME - Are you stressed out and exhausted from your child's poor listening, lack of self-control, constant negotiation and defiant behavior? Family dynamics are complex, especially when you have a gifted child. You may find yourselves butting heads due to their need to be in control. The constant questioning, button-pushing and limit-testing pushes you over the edge until you're angry and yelling, then filled with a heavy, burdensome guilt. You want to enjoy spending time with your child but instead you feel disrespected and like you are living in a war zone. It's time to regain your authority - and your sanity! In this interactive presentation you will receive solutions from the Mad2Glad Blueprint™ that are key to having a calmer, more cooperative child and restoring your sanity. You will learn more about the neuroscience behind your child's behavior. Most importantly you will hear some practical tips that you can implement immediately.

Presenter: **Suz Feely**

ROOM 136 GIFTED FAMILIES: PUTTING THE PUZZLE TOGETHER - Our Kids don't always blend or fit in with the crowd; they aren't 'typical.' Understanding typical characteristics of gifted individuals provides parents with the puzzle pieces needed to see a clearer picture of who their children are. We will examine the differences between high achievers and high ability individuals, as well as what a gifted person with Attention Deficit Disorder or another learning disability looks like. Finally, we will examine the impact of these characteristics on our families, and leave with some strategies to help support a happy, healthy family.

Presenters: **Kris Happe & Jill Hauwiler**

1:00-1:20 P.M. IN THE AUDITORIUM

MCGT ANNUAL MEETING. All members are encouraged to participate in this meeting where there will be a vote on MCGT Board elections and reports on the state of MCGT and its activities.

BREAK-OUT SESSION II

1:30-2:30 P.M.

AUDITORIUM HOME STUDY VERSUS HOMEWORK: HELPING GIFTED LEARNERS LEARN HOW TO STUDY - Homework: Students dislike it, parents dread it, teachers struggle with it, and administrators wrestle with the notion. Additionally, numerous studies show homework has "little to no effect on achievement" (Cooper, Robinson & Patall, 2006). So, if all signals point to ineffectiveness and distain, why do we continue to enforce a practice, or in other words the "myth" of doing homework? Rather than the idea of work outside of school, we should be preparing our children on the habits of study, or home study. During this session, you will be introduced to 10 significant habits of study and ideas for how you can support your child at home.

Presenter: **Richard Cash**

ROOM 136 SO YOU HAVE A CHILD WHO'S ANXIOUS AND/OR A PERFECTIONIST? -

Our gifted children can especially struggle with perfectionism and anxiety. This session will explore the research around two concepts that help manage these two struggles. You will leave with specific strategies to implement with your children as well as tips on the best ways to partner with schools.

Presenter: **Rhonda Geere**

ROOM 229 AUTISM SPECTRUM AND GIFTED: A GUIDE FOR GUIDES -

Being a good guide to children with gifts and talents (GT), autism spectrum disorder (ASD), or both is a challenge requiring conceptual and interpersonal skill. This session presents a heuristic model to support parents, educators, and therapists to better understand the relationship between GT and ASD, so that they can better empathize with and design strategies to support the children they care about. Specifically, we will address misdiagnosis and missing diagnoses, sensory sensitivity and integration, mirroring and modeling, co- and self-regulation, analogizing and systemizing, patternmaking styles, and verbal and non-verbal communication.

Presenter: **Mary Wandrei**

ROOM 232 ADDRESSING EXISTENTIAL DEPRESSION IN KIDS AND ADOLESCENTS

- In some ways, treating depression has become fairly straightforward. But what do we do when the contributing factors of a child's depression are disillusionment, questions of life and death, despair over the meaninglessness of our world? This session will explore existential depression by considering why gifted kids are particularly prone to this type of depression, strategies to differentiate this type of depression from others, and interventions to effectively treat it.

Presenter: **Heather Boorman**

ROOM 233 PRINCIPLES OF FEARLESS LEADERSHIP -

The points presented in this conference session, are based on the reality that everyone is a leader at some time in his or her career. A leader can be anyone who has goals to accomplish and who works with others. A leader is

NOT just a person with a title. If we expect our students/children to grow up be the movers and shakers of the future, we need to introduce them to and help them develop solid leadership skills. With that, we need to be exposed to, know, and understand these skills ourselves. In this interactive presentation, participants will be asked to share their wisdom, experiences and personal or organizational successes as well.

Presenter: **Joseph Gulino**

ROOM 234 GIFTED ADULT GROUPS: ESCAPING ISOLATION, HONORING HIGH POTENTIAL -

Due to gifted adults' unique intellectual, creative, and social/emotional traits (Fieldler, 2015), some of them find difficulty in truly "clicking" socially with the general populace, leading to the start of gifted adult groups across the country. The isolation of these adults, often borne of other persons' negative feedback and of the gifted individual's sense of being misunderstood, can lead to gifted adults forming their own social communities (Healy & Friedrichs, 2017). This session reports social problems faced by gifted adults, structures of the new gifted groups, and ways in which these groups honor gifted adults' conscientiousness, sensitivity, and intensity.

Presenters: **Terry Friedrichs & Carolyn Healy**

ROOM 901 PAVING THE ROAD TO RESILIENCE: THE SOCIAL EMOTIONAL WORLD OF GIFTED KIDS -

Learn how gifted traits can be a mirage for mental health issues and how to navigate the difference, understand the risks and benefits of gifted for mental health, plus how parents can avoid potholes and pave the road to resilience.

Presenter: **Andrea Johnson**

ROOM 903 HOMESCHOOL DISCUSSION

PANEL - Come join homeschooling parents of gifted and talented students as they answer your questions and help you find your way! If school is not a great fit, you need additional resources or you may be already thinking of/wondering about homeschooling, then this is the session for you. No question is too simple or too unusual. No age too young or old.

Presenters: **Homeschool Chapter members**

BREAK-OUT SESSION III:

2:45-3:45 P.M.

AUDITORIUM CONVERSATION WITH

RICHARD – Join Richard for an informal question and answer session. This will be an opportunity to seek additional information on topics from earlier presentations or to ask other pertinent questions of our keynoter.

Presenter: **Richard Cash**

ROOM 132 PARENTING & ADVOCACY FOR GIFTED & TALENTED KIDS - OR DON'T THEY HAVE EXPERTS FOR THIS?!

– Yes, there are experts for Gifted & Twice Exceptional Kids. However, they are experts in their field - not necessarily experts in your child. As the parent of a gifted or twice exceptional child, it can be overwhelming and challenging to parent and advocate for these incredible kids. Learn why it is crucial for you to step into this role, why YOU are your child's best expert, and how you can make decisions for your child from a confident and grounded foundation.

Presenter: **Meg Svensson**

ROOM 136 PARENTING THE GIFTED WITH EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE

– How does a person's giftedness and intensity translate into resiliency and success in all aspects of life? Join us for a thoughtful and thought-provoking discussion of the neuroscience behind emotional intelligence and resilience in work and life success. We will explore 15 skills that have been researched, measured, and scientifically correlated to personal and professional achievement. We will also look at the strengths and challenges often attributed to gifted, "high potential" adults and their children. Parents will leave the session with new knowledge, insights, awareness, and confidence in their ability to not only understand but develop emotional intelligence in themselves and their gifted children.

Presenter: **Jill Hauwiler**

ROOM 229 CALM, CURIOUS CONNECTIONS

– This session will give you the tools to create connection with your children in a short efficient manner. Knowing where our children are at emotionally is key to working with and understanding who they are as people. You will receive tools for achieving this quickly to gauge your child's emotional state. Being in a curious state in this age of digital information overload has, ironically, become challenging. Building your child's inquisitive capacity helps with our mission of creating & supporting healthy, happy families. Helping children learn how to manage their stress, regulate their emotions and quiet their minds is a long-lasting, high-impact strategy that could be adopted by all of us. Learn how just a few short minutes can positively impact achievement, clear thinking, and overall well-being.

Presenter: **Kris Happe**

ROOM 232 DIFFERENTIATION IN THE HIGH SCHOOL REGULAR AND AP CLASSROOM

– Too many high ability students are bored in regular education classes and need to be challenged. Similarly, too often gifted students are only being introduced to college level material in AP classes when they could dive deeper but the focus is on helping students reach college level classes. Unlike elementary teachers, high school teachers do not have training in differentiation and assume that the schedule not the teacher differentiates for students. In this session, Aby will share differentiation strategies that JHS teachers have used to try to increase differentiation with their 9-12th grade students and offer strategies for parents to use to advocate for their students.

Presenter: **Meredith Aby-Keirstead**

ROOM 233 THE POWER OF SELF-ADVOCACY FOR GIFTED LEARNERS

– Our gifted students are better able to take charge of their own educations when we empower them with self-advocacy skills. This session will explore the four essential steps that help them understand their rights and responsibilities, reflect on their own learner profile, discover new options, and communicate their needs effectively. When our students are comfortable speaking up for themselves, we become supporters and encouragers as they travel their own unique paths to graduation and beyond.

Presenter: **Deb Douglas**

ROOM 234 ADDRESSING VARIOUS

NEEDS OF GIFTED ADULTS - In the past six years I have written professional articles on identifying skills gifted adults may need and ways to help them develop these skills. The skill areas include self-knowledge, personal awareness, interpersonal skills, pursuit of excellence, and learning executive skills. These are important life skills that make gifted adults more successful in the social, emotional, communicative, thinking, work, and technical areas. I do not imply that one is dysfunctional in order to improve but that nearly everyone that is normal can develop their skill to a greater extent. On one hand, no one is perfect, but on the other hand, gifted adults do not function up to their full potential. This presentation will discuss ways to assist gifted individuals to identify goals and develop strategies to implement a successful learning plan.

Presenter: **Stuart Dansinger**

ROOM 901 SAVE IT FOR WORLD PEACE! **HOW TO ADDRESS RESISTING AND PROTESTING BEHAVIORS WHEN FACED WITH INTELLECTUAL DIATRIBE**

- Parents and practitioners will learn practical strategies for addressing protesting behaviors and reducing verbal bantering when setting limits. Learn the difference between passive and active noncompliance and specific skills to use today! to increase your parenting strength, reduce noncompliance and reverse the "who's in charge" dilemma.

Presenter: **Wendi Schirvar**

ROOM 903 MINDCRAFT: CRAFTING GIFTED MINDS, HEARTS AND BODIES THROUGH PLAY

- Sometimes executive functioning, emotional regulation, social skills and perfectionism can be challenging for gifted kids and teens. Escape into videogames is a growing concern. But, throughout childhood and adolescences, games and play continue to be one of the preferred methods of learning and communicating with others. Learn ways to mentor gifted kids through play and games to increase the chances they will learn better executive functioning, improve their emotional balance,

reduce stress, and improve social skills. This presentation provides several examples of games, imagination, creativity, challenges and strategies to transfer play into learning skills in real life.

Presenter: **Anne Tyler**

ADULT SESSION PRESENTERS

Keynote Speaker - **Dr. Richard Cash** has given hundreds of workshops, presentations, and staff-development sessions throughout the United States, Europe, Asia and the Middle East. The research-based strategies and techniques he offers are proven to increase student achievement. Others have commended his talent for working with teachers to develop engaging and enriching learning environments that can improve student learning. At the end of the day, his greatest passion is helping teachers recognize the various talents all children possess and create learning experiences to allow those talents to flourish. He is considered by many to be an exceptionally engaging, motivating, and enlightening presenter. He is also a member of several professional organizations including the National Association for Gifted Children, the Council for Exceptional Children, and ASCD. Dr. Cash has authored numerous articles on quality instructional practices and a popular teacher resource guide, *Advancing Differentiation: Thinking and Learning for the 21st Century (Revised & Updated)*. He co-authored the book *Differentiation for Gifted Learners: Going Beyond the Basics* with Dr. Diane Heacox. His newest book, *Self-Regulation in the Classroom: Helping Students Learn How to Learn*, was released in 2016.

Meredith Aby-Keirstead has been the gifted and talented coordinator at Thomas Jefferson High School for five years in Bloomington, MN.

Erica Allenburg is the mother of three children, a career marketing professional, but has spent the last thirteen years of her life dedicating her time to raising her children. Her plan to return to the workforce in 2014 was cut short due to the time being spent managing her son's issues with twice exceptionality.

Wendy Behrens serves as the Gifted and Talented Education Specialist for the Minnesota Department of Education, providing leadership and consultation services for educators, administrators, and parents. She provides technical assistance to and collaborates with institutions of higher education, professional organizations, educator networks, and others interested in promoting rigorous educational opportunities.

Heather Boorman is a therapist specializing in supporting families impacted by giftedness/twice exceptionality. She founded and works at Boorman Counseling in Western WI, and also writes and podcasts to provide real support to parents who love a differently wired child at The Fringy Bit.com.

Stuart Dansinger is a Licensed Psychologist and Licensed School Psychologist in private practice. He first assessed gifted children in 1965 and has continued to do so every year since then. He has been an MCGT member since 1968 and was awarded the MCGT Friend of the Gifted Award in 2009.

Deb Douglas coordinated gifted education for Manitowoc (WI) Public Schools for 20+ years and is a past president of the Wisconsin Association for Talented and Gifted. Her book, *The Power of Self-Advocacy for Gifted Learners: Teaching the Four Essential Steps to Success* is available from Free Spirit Publishing.

Suz Feely is a Certified Mad2Glad Parenting Coach, ICF Certified Coach, and mother of 3 children including 2 gifted sons. Suz and Robin work with parents to foster the unique strengths of their children and develop deeper and richer connections with them.

Terry Friedrichs has worked with gifted adults in schools and universities for 40 years and has recently advocated for placement of gifted adult studies within gifted-youth advocacy associations.

Rhonda Geere, a trained cognitive and holistic lifestyle coach, has worked in the field of education for 20+ years as an intervention and general education teacher and most recently as an instructional coach. Rhonda has been married for 18 years and has a unique and funny 13 year old son.

Tom Greenspon is an author and a retired psychologist and marriage and family therapist. He is known locally and nationally for his work with G/T individuals, couples, and families. Tom and his wife Barbara are former Co-Presidents of the Minnesota Council for the Gifted and Talented.

Joseph Gulino, Ph. D developed one of the first classroom models for 'gifted/talented' education before it became a recognized need and priority. He is Principal of the Gulinogroup & Fearless Leadership Consulting. He was the recipient of the National Association of Secondary School Principals Middle Level Dissertation Award and the University of San Francisco Alumni Society Outstanding Educator in Administration Award.

Kris Happe and Jill Hauwiler created Bright Spotting to focus on and provide support, resources and create community for parent and families of gifted children. Both women have two gifted children of their own and understand the challenges as well as the joys of raising smart, sensitive, and often intense children.

Carolyn Healy has worked with gifted adults and has reflected, for several decades, on their successful and unsuccessful integration within the business world.

Homeschool Chapter members - both experienced and newer homeschooling parents will be available to answer your questions, encourage your curiosity and offer their experiences and resources.

Andrea Johnson, Psy.D., is a clinical psychologist in private practice in Edina, MN. She specializes in working with gifted kids and their families. She has worked or trained at Mayo Clinic, the U of MN, Children's Hospital in Denver and Minneapolis, the MN Department of Health, Children's Mental Health, and is the parent of 2 gifted kids.

Wendi Schirvar, PhD, provides assessment and therapies for children, adolescents (ages 3-21) and families. She specializes her practice serving gifted children and those that parent and teach them. Additionally, Dr. Schirvar offers parent coaching, educational consulting, and workshops to address a variety of concerns including noncompliance, underperformance, mood instability, learning problems, and executive functioning deficits. She emphasizes the role of the family by incorporating strategies that target changes for both parent and child."

Robin Stubblefield is a certified SENG Parent Model Group Facilitator, ICF Certified Coach and mom to a gifted son.

Meg Svensson of More! with Meg, is a Life & Leadership Coach and mother of 2 terrific, twice exceptional kids. Determined to find the best options for her own kids, Meg has been an advocate and trailblazer for Gifted & Twice Exceptional families for 15 years and counting.

Anne Tyler, MS, LMFT is a family therapist in Edina. She specializes in the needs of gifted children, adolescents and adults. Anne created MindQuest groups to teach gifted children and teens how to improve executive functioning. She provides online coaching to parents and gifted adults. And, she regularly provides presentations to parents and educators. Anne has a Podcast and website called, Living With Live Wires, where she discusses the challenges and victories of raising children to improve their abilities in mastery, creativity and engaging risk and adventure.

Mary L. Wandrei, PhD, is a psychotherapist with offices in White Bear Lake, MN. She specializes in assessment, coaching, and psychotherapy for gifted and talented and twice-exceptional children and adults; autism spectrum screening/consultation; school adjustment and educational planning; and consultation around executive functioning, anxiety, depression, sensory processing, and temperament issues. She can be contacted at mary@marywandrei.com.

Handouts for Keynote Speaker

Handouts for presentations by Dr. R. Cash may be found at:
<http://www.nrich.consulting/handouts.html>

Silent Auction - 9:00 am - 2:40 pm

New this year: Silent Auction - Support MCGT by bidding on some great gifted services. Items in the silent auction include tutoring sessions in math, executive functioning, or language arts, testing sessions, an executive functioning class, and counseling. We have over \$2300 worth of gifted services to auction off!

Betty Johnson Memorial Scholarship Fund

Memorials can be made to the Betty Johnson Scholarship Fund through the Minnesota Council for the Gifted and Talented.

On mcgt.net click on the Betty Johnson Scholarship Fund or go to mcgt.net/betty to make your contribution.

If you would like to mail a contribution, please send a check made out to MCGT (with Scholarship Fund in memo line) to
5701 Normandale Road, Suite 315, Edina MN 55424.

The Day's Schedule

- 8:30 - 9:00 Check-in and get program
9:00 - 12:00 Children's morning session
9:00 - 9:30 Welcome, MCGT Friend of the Gifted Award
9:30 - 10:30 Keynote Address
10:45 - 11:45 Adult breakout session - I
11:45 - 1:00 Lunch for adults and kids
1:00 - 4:00 Children's afternoon session
1:00 - 1:20 MCGT Annual Meeting
1:30 - 2:30 Adult breakout session - II
2:45 - 3:45 Adult breakout session - III
4:10 - 4:30 Book Swap session for kids and adults

Exhibitors & Vendors in the Gym from 8:30-4:30

Arete Academy, The Blake School, Bloomington Public Schools: STEM Program, Brightmont Academy, Bright Spotting: Positive Solutions for Families, Center for Talent Development at Northwestern University and Northwestern University Midwest Academic Talent Search, Friedrichs Education, Gulinogroup & Nathan Levy Publications, K-12 Inc., MathCounts, MCGT Book Sales (books from a number of publishers), MCGT Homeschoolers, Nova Classical Academy, Geere (W)holistic Living Coach, River City Clinic, SENG, Tyler Institute, Usborne Books, You Be the Chemist, **plus Catalogs and Information**

The Minnesota Council for the Gifted and Talented provides the service of information, but does not intend endorsement or recommendation of any programs, products or activities, unless specifically noted. You are encouraged to obtain additional information and make your own evaluations.

Kids Program - 2nd Floor

Morning (9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.)

Kindergarten - Second Grade

- Room 203-A101 Beep, beep! Seatbelts everyone! - Christi Kaehn
Room 207-A102 Trees, Bears, Deer, and More. Discover Nature's Math! - Lauren Borer
Room 201-A103 Oki Ni-Kso-Ko-Wa - Becki Wells Staley

Third - Fourth Grade

- Room 208-A201 Tinkering with LEGOs - Peter Hoh
Room 204-A202 Magic Mastery - Mr. Kahlow
Room 202-A203 Finding Fantastic Beasts - Jessica Holm

Fifth - Seventh Grade

- Room 215-A301 Creating a Life in Hip-Hop - Toki Wright
Room 209-A302 Mock Trial - Jacob Pittman
Room 205-A303 Be Your Best Friend! - Deb Douglas

Third - Seventh Grade

- Room 212-A501 Patterns of Protection Using Watercolors - Kris Holtmeyer

Afternoon (1:00-4:00 p.m.)

Kindergarten - Second Grade

- Room 208-P111 Tinkering with LEGOs - Peter Hoh
Room 212-P112 Creating Patterns of Protection - Kris Holtmeyer
Room 203-P113 Beep, beep! Seatbelts everyone! - Christi Kaehn

Third - Fourth Grade

- Room 207-P211 Nature's Math - Lauren Borer
Room 202-P212 Finding Fantastic Beasts - Jessica Holm
Room 206-P213 (Re) Purposed Creations and Inventions - Jef Pokorney

Fifth - Seventh Grade

- Room 209-P311 Mock Trial - Jacob Pittman
Room 215-P312 Creating a Life in Hip-Hop - Toki Wright
Room 205-P313 Be Your Best Friend! - Deb Douglas

Third - Seventh Grade

- Room 204-P511 Mastering Magic - Mr. Kahlow

Student & Adult Book Swap - 4:10-4:30 pm

As part of the MCGT Conference, kids and adults are offered an opportunity to exchange their used books in good condition for "new" reading material. The student section will contain children's and adolescent books (no textbooks or preschool books please). Books may be turned in at registration and participants are given a coupon noting how many books they brought in. They return to the book swap areas in the exhibit area at 4:10 after the afternoon classes end and redeem their coupon for books of their choice. We hope all leave excited to read their "new" books.