

MCGT Members Benefits

- Informational literature and referral services
- Bi-monthly newsletter
- Annual state conference with special children's programs
- Monthly parent support meetings and CHAT Nights
- Speakers, seminars and workshops
- Advocacy at all levels for GT children, including legislative efforts in collaboration with the Minnesota Educators of the Gifted and Talented
- Participation in a national network through our affiliation with the National Association for Gifted Children and other organizations

For many members, the biggest benefits are the intangibles: learning about a camp your child will rave about for years, hearing a parenting tip that will save headaches and heartaches, or finding advocacy ideas that transform a negative school situation.



Join MCGT today by going online to
www.mcgt.net/join.html



Minnesota Council
for the Gifted & Talented

Stay Connected and Informed

MCGT chapters and parent groups offer a safe and supportive environment for parents, educators, and professionals to share concerns, offer support, exchange ideas, build social connections, and work to improve opportunities available to their children.

For a list of current chapters/parent groups, or information about starting one in your area, please contact MCGT (info@mcgt.net), or visit us at www.mcgt.net/chapters.html.

MCGT is a registered 501(c)3 non-profit organization.

Resources

National Association for Gifted Children (NAGC):
www.nagc.org

Supporting Emotional Needs of the Gifted (SENG): www.sengifted.org

Minnesota Department of Education:
www.education.state.mn.us

Minnesota Educators of the Gifted and Talented (MEGT): www.mnegt.org

Hoagies' Gifted Education Page:
www.hoagiesgifted.org

PACER Center: www.pacer.org

PACER provides a wide variety of information and resources for children and youth with disabilities (includes LD, ADHD, autism, etc.)

Minnesota Council for the Gifted and Talented

Connections . Support . Resources . Advocacy



What is MCGT?

The *Minnesota Council for the Gifted and Talented* (MCGT) promotes better understanding of, and educational services for, gifted and talented children and their families. Through parent groups, online support, newsletters, and regular events, MCGT provides **connections, support, resources, and advocacy** for gifted children throughout the state.



www.mcgt.net

Find us on



Is My Child Gifted?

Although there is great diversity amongst gifted children, you might recognize some of the following characteristics in your child:

- High level of alertness, keen observer (even at an early age)
- Learns quickly
- Excellent memory
- Curious, asks endless questions
- Large vocabulary, advanced verbal abilities
- Creative
- May be self-taught, acquiring skills on their own i.e. reading, drawing, math
- Perceives complex patterns, connections, or relationships
- Able to transfer learning and knowledge to new situations
- Enjoys complex and challenging ideas or tasks
- Enjoys problem solving, may develop unique and creative solutions
- Wants to share knowledge with others
- Sophisticated sense of humor, quick wit
- Unique world-view

Challenges of the Gifted Student

Asynchronous Development

Although GT kids may be physically similar to same age peers, they often do not fit the developmental norms for their age. They may accomplish traditional milestones earlier than usual—and some much later.

Asynchronous learners often find their interests do not mesh with the interests of same-age peers. Some may have the intellectual ability to understand information that they do not yet have the emotional maturity to handle.

The Twice-Exceptional Learner

The twice-exceptional learner (also referred to as a 2E learner) is a gifted child who also has a learning difficulty or a disability, such as audio or visual processing disorders, attention deficit disorder, dysgraphia, or autism spectrum disorder (ASD).

For children whose deficits interfere with their ability to use their strengths, their learning and self-esteem suffers, and appropriate academic placement becomes even more challenging.

How Can I Support My Gifted Child?

There are many steps you can take to support your gifted child.

- Educate yourself about gifted/talented children.
- Find opportunities to connect your child with other gifted learners.
- Encourage your child's curiosity, help them explore ideas that spark their love of learning, build on their strengths, and support participation in activities they love.
- Learn about best practices in gifted education and the options in your school district to find or develop educational options that meet your child's academic needs.
- Explore resources in your community that will be of interest to your child.
- Connect with other parents of GT kids to share ideas, resources, and support each other.
- Understand your child's unique social and emotional needs.
- Remember that while GT kids share many characteristics, each child is unique. Listen for your child's cues about their individual preferences and needs.