

September 2014 - In This Issue:

UPCOMING EVENTS

PARENT RESOURCES

ENRICHMENT

HEY KIDS, ON TOMORROW'S SHOW AND TELL, I'LL BE BRINGING A BIG SURPRISE. WILL IT SHOCK AND AMAZE YOU... OR WILL IT DISGUST AND TERRIFY YOU?? FIND OUT TOMORROW WHEN I REVEAL MY NEXT SHOW AND TELL HORROR! DON'T MISS IT!



We Made It!



Visit the Enrichment Website

ENRICHMENT

The Thompson School District offers a wide variety of educational programs for all students that align with curriculum taught in the classrooms. Why choose an enrichment program for your child?

- Students will work on and investigate an area of interest

UPCOMING EVENTS

GT Expert Jim Delisle, Ph. D.

"If we want our nation to prosper, we must pay attention to its most intelligent youth."



Jim Delisle has worked on behalf of gifted children and teens for more than three decades.

As both a teacher and counselor, Jim learned how essential it is for gifted people to understand that giftedness is more than simply "being smart"--it is the height of one's thinking and the depth of one's emotions that are the hallmarks of growing up gifted.

**Tuesday, September 16, 2014
6-8pm**

Fossil Ridge High School

Limited copies of his newest release, [Dumbing Down America](#) will be available for sale.

This event is free to Thompson families. [Learn more](#)

TSD Gifted Coordinator Carol Swalley

Demystifying Assessment for Gifted Students

When schools throw around terms like criterion-referenced and composite score, do you wish you had an interpreter?

more in depth.

- Involvement in enrichment programs allows for exposure to new hobbies and experiences.
- Students are allowed to pursue a topic of study under the guidance of a teacher or mentor.
- New friendships are formed.
- Creative thinking is developed and enhanced.

Upcoming Events

[Community LEGO Build Day - 9/13](#)

[Destination ImagiNation Kick Off - 9/18](#)

[Science Fair Info Night - 9/23](#)

[Robotics Build Day/Scrimmages - 10/4](#)

Help Wanted!

District Spelling Bee Coordinator

The Spelling Coordinator is a liaison between the Thompson School District, state and national spelling organizations, and the local schools, principals, parents, teams, and coaches. The sponsor organizes the district spelling and supports school coaches. [**Learn more and apply.**](#)

More About Enrichment

Chess Club

Countless researchers and studies have shown over the years that chess does indeed strengthen a child's mental clarity, fortitude, stability, and overall health. In this technologically driven world, chess helps aid in the synthesis and growth of certain areas in the brain and mind. [More](#)

Have you ever wondered what the difference is between a percentage and percentile?

Carol will provide parents the ins and outs of assessments used with gifted students.

Parents will also learn about some of the common assessments used with gifted students, what they measure, and more.



October 9, 2014

6-7pm

This event is free to Thompson families. [Learn more](#)

PARENT RESOURCES

The Wiki is Gone...Where Do I Go For Info?

In years past, the GT Department has utilized a Wiki Page to share information regarding gifted education, resources and enrichment opportunities.

This year, parent resources, upcoming events and more will be housed on the Thompson School District website > Departments> Gifted and Talented. Check back frequently as we add and update resources, events, GT Meetups and more. [**Visit Website**](#)

Back to School for Teens

What parents need to know

As much as parents might want to, it's difficult to read the minds of teenagers. College student Lucie Fink and teen blogger Sam Koppelman are here to help with some inside information on what parents need to know as their teens go back to school. [**Watch here**](#)

SENG

Mission

SENG's mission is to empower families and communities to guide gifted and talented individuals to reach their goals: intellectually, physically, emotionally, socially, and spiritually.



Vision

SENG envisions a world where gifted, talented and creative individuals are supported to build gratifying, meaningful lives and contribute to the well-being of others. To this end, SENG

Destination ImagiNation...

is an innovative organization that teaches life skills and expands imagination through teamwork-based problem solving. Teams create solutions to "Team Challenges" by creating a short skit, unleashing their imagination and take unique approaches to problem solving. [More](#)

MathCounts...

is a national math competition for middle school students, involving students in team and/or individual competitions. Thompson hosts a district competition, with winners proceeding to Regionals and State. The top five competitors at State win a half-tuition scholarship to DU or the Colorado School of Mines. [More](#)

Robotics...

teaches team-building, problem-solving and critical thinking utilizing the platform of technology. Robotics programs are for 9 to 16 year olds, designed to get children excited about science and technology, and teach them valuable employment and life skills. [More](#)

Science Fair

With the jam-packed schedules of today's families, why would either a student or a parent want to add one more major activity? Surprising to some, a science fair project is one of the best learning experiences a student can undertake. And, if it is taken seriously, it can be an excellent way to earn significant prizes, qualify for scholarships, and distinguish a college application. [More](#)

Shadows in the Arts

Students in grades 5-12 are nominated for participation by their art teachers. Students then gather at a local venue for a workshop sponsored by a local artist. Students learn about the medium in which their artists specialize. Previous workshops have taught students about watercolors, drawing, sculpting, and more. [More](#)

Spelling Bee

Spelling bees are thought to have originated in the U.S. in 1809, though

reaches out to diverse communities that share our mission across the nation and the globe.

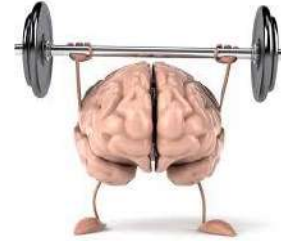
[Visit Website](#)

The Thompson School District will pilot a SENG Model Parent Group series, this fall. For more information, contact Michelle Stout at 970-613-5057.

Fostering a Growth Mindset

7 Ways to Nurture Your Gifted Child

You get the letter from school in the mail. A teacher has identified your child as potentially "gifted" and wants to send him or her for further testing and evaluation.



Flash forward: the tests are completed, your child is a whiz, and enrichment classes will become a part of his regular school routine.

What wonderful news! It was in my family. Until all of a sudden, it wasn't anymore. Instead of my seven-year old feeling enhanced self-confidence and pride in her intellectual and creative abilities, what I began to see was a newly anxious little girl who cried over imperfect scores on her handwriting test and wanted to give up books "forever" when she found out she placed second in her class' monthly reading contest. [Read More](#)

Published on December 19, 2011 by Signe Whitson, L.S.W. in *Passive Aggressive Diaries*

Message from Salman Khan

You Can Learn Anything



they were undoubtedly held prior to that. A national champion has been crowned every year in the U.S. since 1925. Why a spelling bee? For the simple reason that the language is so hard to spell correctly, *even for native speakers!* [More](#)

Fun Night Recap

Fun was had by all at the GT Family Fun Night. With robots, lasers, chess and more for kids, and engaging speakers for adults, it was an action-packed evening. See you again next year!

Sincerely,
Jody and Candie

Pix & Presentations Available Here.
NoCo Gifted Community

9 Challenges Facing Gifted Children How You Can Help!

Ah, our beloved, quirky GT kiddos. With their gift of insight, humor, generosity and high achievement, our children may also be impatient, inflexible, absent-minded....

If you haven't socialized or networked with parents of other GT kids, you may not realize how common these traits are among gifted children.

How can we help our children nurture their gifts and manage their challenges? [Read More](#)

by Erin Dower, Family Education.com

GT Parent Liaison

I am a parent of two boys, 15 and 7. My oldest was put on "watch and enrich" in 2nd grade, and formally identified Gifted & Talented in 5th grade. My 2nd grader is a rambunctious 7 year old, with all that entails. Every day with my children has been its own gift and adventure.

I am here to empower you to be an effective advocate for you child, offer tools to add to your parenting toolbox, and create networking and learning opportunities for GT parents.

Cheers,
Michelle Stout
GT Parent Liaison
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