

Gifted Education e-News



FY 2017, NO. 3

SEPTEMBER 2016

Welcome to the September edition of Gifted Education e-News! This newsletter is created by the Arizona Department of Education for updates on gifted education happenings in Arizona and across the country.

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FREE! GIFTED WORKSHOP IN TUCSON, AZ – SATURDAY, OCTOBER 1ST!



Come one – come all! The Amphitheater REACH program is offering a **FREE** Regional Workshop for Parents and Teachers of Gifted Children, PK-12. This event is Saturday, October 1, 2016, from 9:00 am – 12 noon in Tucson. Teacher recertification/gifted endorsement hours will be available. For more information, click [here](#).

Due to this short notice, you do not have to RSVP to attend!

EVERY STUDENT SUCCEEDS ACT (ESSA) UPDATE

The Arizona Department of Education has released an **initial draft** of the [Arizona SEA Consolidated State Plan](#) for the new US Department of Education *Every Student Succeeds Act* (ESSA), which has replaced *No Child Left Behind*.

Please note: “***This is by no means the final State Plan***, as we will continue to modify this document based on the vision of all Arizonans. I encourage you to read this draft and provide your feedback on the proposals. My We Are Listening Tours will continue through the end of the year to give you the opportunity to voice your thoughts in-person and our website, email and social media channels will remain open until the plan is finalized later this year.” **Introduction Letter from Superintendent Douglas to Initial Draft Plan*

High Level Timeline:

- *Post Initial Draft Plan:* September 7, 2016
- *Post Revised Draft Plan (based on received feedback) for 60 Day Public Comment Period:* October 17, 2016
- *Submit Final Plan (revised based on received feedback) to USED:* January 2017

We want to hear your feedback! For additional information, or to provide feedback, suggestions or questions, please email us at ESSAInbox@azed.gov and visit our homepage at www.azed.gov/essa.

AZ KIDS CAN'T WAIT! SUPERINTENDENT DOUGLAS' WE ARE LISTENING TOUR

The Superintendent's 2016 We Are Listening Tour will include public meetings on all topics concerning K-12 education. The meetings will run from May through December of 2016. Not all dates are listed at this time and will be posted as venues confirm availability.

If you are unable to attend any of the public meetings, you can submit your comments and suggestions to the Arizona Department of Education via email at HearingEveryVoice@azed.gov, the submission form on ADE's website at www.azed.gov/hearingeveryvoice, or via Twitter using [@azedschools](#) or [#ParentsMustBeHeard](#).

ARIZONA ASSOCIATION FOR GIFTED AND TALENTED (AAGT)



The Arizona Association for Gifted and Talented (AAGT – www.arizonagifted.org) is an advocacy organization for teachers, parents and students. They are an affiliate organization of the National Association for Gifted Children (NAGC – www.nagc.org). Both of these organizations provide some great resources for parents of gifted children. The AAGT offers opportunities for parents and students – such as their annual Parent Institute in the Fall, held in Phoenix, student programs / competitions, and their upcoming Annual Conference in Phoenix.

AAGT ANNUAL CONFERENCE ~ PHOENIX, FEBRUARY 2-3, 2017



Save the date! Join us at the Annual AAGT Gifted Conference on **February 2-3, 2017** (Thursday & Friday) in Phoenix.

You may register for one or both days.

Register by **December 20th** for the **Early Bird discount**.

For more information and registration, click [here](#).

NAGC CONFERENCE IN FLORIDA ~ EARLY BIRD RATE ENDS SEPTEMBER 30TH!



If you haven't already registered for the 63rd Annual National Association for Gifted Children (NAGC) Conference in Florida on **November 3-6, 2016**, at the Walt Disney World Resort, there is still time to register. The Early Bird rate ends today, September 30th. For more information, click [here](#).

SPOTLIGHT ON GIFTED ★ NEW! ★

Do your gifted students have an amazing story to share? Is your school or district doing innovative things to improve outcomes for gifted students, promote efficiency and support educators, i.e., gifted professional development, etc.?

★ Please tell us about it! ★

Tell us about the wonderful work you and your students are doing in and out of the classroom! Email your announcements, news articles, photos, etc. to us at Gifted@azed.gov.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Do you know someone who may be interested in receiving this Gifted e-newsletter? Feel free to forward this e-News to them so they can email us at Gifted@azed.gov and be added to our contact list. Visit our website at www.azed.gov/gifted-education for other Arizona gifted resources and information.

Thank you for all that **you** do every day to support gifted learners in Arizona!

- Peter Laing
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