Welcome to REACH!

Saturday, January 25, 2020
9AM – noon
Mooresstown Upper Elementary School

advocacy@njagc.org  parentchair@njagc.org
NJAGC: Who Are We?

- The state chapter of the National Association for Gifted Children (NAGC).

Established in 1991, we are a 501(c)3 nonprofit volunteer organization devoted to advocating for the needs of gifted and talented children.

- Volunteers: parents and educators
Like & Follow us on Facebook and Twitter

@NJAGCgifted

#REACHjan25

keep up with www.njagc.org
Membership is open to parents, educators, and the community (no student label needed)

The board is comprised of volunteers working together to help gifted children, their families, and teachers.

Always looking for new volunteers to improve NJAGC, offer your area of interest/strength (web, finance, fund-raising)
March is
Gifted & Talented Students Month in NJ

Gifted & Talented Students Month each March
Joint Resolution of the NJ Legislature
Signed into law, 2001 see it at www.njagc.org
New Law “The Strengthening Gifted Education Act”

More information online see it at www.njagc.org
Network, join, help

- Exchange advice, research, and ideas with parents and educators (*Newsnet*, monthly contests, places to go)
- Receive our quarterly newsletter, *PROMISE*, and our email newsletter, *NewsNet* for contests and family events and opportunities
- Benefit from reduced rates for the NJAGC’s Annual Conference and events like REACH, new members can join today for special in-person rate $30 (cash or check)
Goals Today: Share Resources and Opportunities for kids

“It’s not what you say, it is how you say it.”

Carol Dweck - A Study on Praise and Mindsets

Small changes….huge difference in effort and engagement
Struggle....it’s a good thing

INVEST in AWE:
learn something new,
take a challenge,
work to get to goal,
explore,
accept ambiguity

When you steal a student’s struggle, you steal the learning. When you support the struggle, you take that student farther than ever.
T chart strategy

- Fold paper vertically in half
- Label columns “In” “Out”
- Optical illusion “bird walk” ----->
- Why is this needed?
  *Several reasons: multi-tasking, learning to refocus, the kids with all of the answers (or questions) need to be noticed or recognized, way to take action to “get credit”
Realities of School

- Educators care
- Each child is special, has specific learning needs
- Limited time with each teacher per day or week
- Parents can supplement learning at school: questioning “What good questions did you pose today?”
- Extending the curriculum: visits, research, connections
- Fuel and fan their fires, play to their strengths, eliminate the necessity to be good at or enjoy everything (buffet)
More parent questions:

Acceleration?

Enrichment?

Museum passes, contests,
College courses, mentors,
Scouts, chess club, etc.
What is the role of the parent?

- Facilitator, help child achieve, point→ not do
- Teach lifelong learning processes, not facts  [Strategy: K-W-H-L]
  Research and analytical skills (.gov .edu, .org)
- Move student along the continuum [need to know & cite, start / end points]
- Provide experiences, mentors for talented
- Advocate for your child appropriately
- Help children become & model lifelong learners (games, reading)
Foundation

Parent “job”

needs v. privilege
food, shelter, clothing

all else is “extra”

I cannot make you happy, but I can support you in the creation of your own happiness.

YUNG PUEBLO
Chores and more- family time, responsibility

- cooking,
- play music while working,
- gardening (plan not just weeding),
- pet care,
- laundry,
- budgeting

Innovation:

- invite new methods and improvements on processes,
- get creative,
- see big picture
  (participation in all steps of process)
DEVELOP  Kids who care

Take action:
- write a letter
- help at a shelter/soup kitchen, service days
- charity drive, recycle
- scouts & service org.
- research & educate others

Limit exposure:
- Trust adults in charge to protect them (drills)
- Don’t offer extra info, just answer questions or find source of info.
What can parents do?

Run for a seat on your local board of education.

Form a parent group for parents of high ability learners

Be a resource to your district (info, programs, hands on help)

Check on policies and procedures: when last reviewed and updated?

Volunteer at school (media center, tech lab, STEM courses, classroom, contests, guest speaker- career or hobby),
Learning about parenting:

Becoming a Peaceful Parent: Empower Yourself to Be Patient, Present, and Loving with Your Kids (virtual summit) — January 27 - February 9:

TILT creator Debbie Reber is honored to be a part of Paula Kettula, LCSW, online summit featuring 25 interviews with experts including Dr. Dan Siegel, Dr. Laura Markham, Sheryl Ziegler, and many more. Paula is a licensed clinical social worker with 20 years of experience working with children and families who is passionate about serving parents who are ready to transform their relationship with themselves and their children. **Sign up for the free summit here.**
Find your tribe, model for kids

Social networks

Bookstores, book clubs, libraries

Clubs & classes (sports, chess, robotics, astronomy, collections)

Balance: work, play, downtime
What is the role of the parent?

- Understand your child’s learning style & needs
- Give them wide exposure
- 21st century skills
- Raise them to be Observant & Thinkers
  - Farmer’s Market
  - Halloween Candies
  - Alexa
- Well-being
Parent Involvement

- Parent Resources from Byrdseed
- www.hoagiesgifted.org (blogs, shop)
- meet others, what worked for them
- Form bookclubs and playgroups, friends
- www.freespirit.com  www.prufrock.com  publishers
Best books for bright kids

Newbery winners
Caldecott (illustrations)

other awards:
(match to child)

contact living authors

bibliotherapy for kids

Read and listen simultaneously

Within 3 years age of the protagonist

Fiction v. non-fiction

Character, setting (time and place), theme, plot, moral, style
Local Treasures

Philadelphia Museum of Art
Franklin Institute
Science History Museum
Constitution Center
Independence Hall / Nat’l Park
Mutter Museum
Eastern State Penitentiary
Simeone Automotive Museum

Comcast Center
building 1 lobby Highest Def
new lobby 2- Universal Sphere

US Mint

UPENN
archaeology museum

https://www.visitphilly.com/articles/philadelphia/must-see-attractions-philadelphia/
Free opportunities in NJ (handout)

Free Opportunities in New Jersey

...for kids who love to learn

North Jersey
The New Jersey Naval Museum (Hackensack)
Center for Contemporary Art (Bedminster)
Lenape Indian Village at Waterloo (Stanhope)
Fort Lee Museum (Fort Lee)

Central Jersey
The Stone Museum (Monroe)
Historic Longstreet Farm (Holmdel)
Zimmerli Art Museum (New Brunswick)
Twice Exceptional 2e

www.sengifted.org
www.understood.org
www.2enewsletter.org

Podcasts: MindMatters  TILT parenting

Learn the educational jargon and follow trends.
(acronyms: SEL, I & RS) “Hop aboard moving trains”
Family game nights

Strategy: logical thinking, predictions, team work, friendly competition, sportsmanship, skill based → not age, transfers to academics

Invest time in their growth, “priceless”

The Best Family Board Games on Amazon, According to Hyperenthusiastic Reviewers
Math-minded Online Resources

- **Figure This**
- **101 Questions**
- **3 Act Math**
- **Picture This**
- **Illuminations**
- **Fibonacci Studies**
- **Nature by Numbers Video**
- Math for younger children - **Bedtime Math**
HAVE FUN AT HOME WITH THESE RESOURCES
and honor your inner nerd!

- Wonderopolis
- Mystery Doug
- NEWSELA
- Khan Academy: Math for Fun and Glory
- Rube Goldberg Machines! - STEM, Engineering, FUN!
- Book ideas! Byrdseed
- Puzzlements: Byrdseed (e-newsletter)
More Resources

- Music - [Chrome Music Lab](#)
- Interactive Simulations - [University of Colorado](#)
- Art - [Krita](#) (also check out virtual field trips to museums)
- STEM - Idaho PBS: [Science Trek](#)
- Space - NASA: [To Space & Back](#) & [STEM_ON_STATION](#)
- Science - [NIH Science Education](#)
- Academic Competitions - [JHU CTY](#)
- Environment - [National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration - Student Resources](#)
- Department of Defense - [DoD STEM](#)
Programs (many have scholarships)

- Spring break Camp for Middle School Students - Whyy
- Programs -
  - John Hopkins - Center for Talented Youth (CTY),
  - Duke University - Duke TiP,
  - Summer Institute for Gifted (SIG)
  - Davidson Institute
- Community Programs - 4-h.org
- Summer program on applied science & Technology for middle school students - UPenn GEMS
Not the end, but the beginning......