

BOCES NEWSLETTER for Gifted Coordinators

December 2019



Welcome!

Welcome to our first combined-effort, full-of-ideas newsletter for BOCES-level GT Coordinators! Thank you to all of you who took some time to contribute to this information here. The plan is to publish again just before our next meeting in February and then again in mid-April or early May. If this ends up being a useful document for all of you, we'll try for a 4-times/year publication. Enjoy perusing the material, feel free to pass it along as needed, and give us (Michelle Barkmeyer and I) some feedback!

The next newsletter is set to go out in mid-late January, right before our next meeting together. So, expect a new Google Form for input coming soon. And, if you didn't have a chance to reply this time, you can contribute for the next one.

Paula McGuire, Northeast BOCES

Coming up . . . check your dates!

<p>Scholarship: Mensa Foundation U.S. Scholarships. Students need not be a Mensa member to apply. One essay of 550 words is all that is needed. Further information here: https://www.mensafoundation.org/what-we-do/scholarships/rules-and-guidelines/</p>	<p>Deadline: January 15, 2020</p>
<p>Scholarship: Society of Women Engineers Scholarship for both incoming Freshman and College Sophomores through Graduate students. The application just opened on December 1, and more information can be found here: https://scholarships.swe.org/applications/login.asp</p>	<p>Deadline: February 14, 2020 (for College Sophomores through Graduate level) May 1, 2020 for incoming Freshman</p>
<p>Event: COSLI (Colorado Student Leaders Institute). This is part of the Governor’s School network, and is a state-legislated summer program on the UC-Denver campus. Students live on campus for one month and earn 3 college credits in one of two “majors”--International Social Studies or STEAM; lectures and hands-on projects are part of the experience. The website is: http://www.costudentleaders.org/.</p>	<p>Deadline: January 31, 2020</p>
<p>Program: Pre-Collegiate CU Denver Programs with Middle School, High School, and Summer Options. Students do apply for this process, but can have ongoing “membership” once accepted. Full information can be found here: http://www.ucdenver.edu/academics/degrees/pre-collegiate/Pages/default.aspx</p>	<p>Deadline: Varies depending program. Check the “Application Process” for each program on the website.</p>
<p>Event: Legislative Day with CAGT. Information should be posted on this relatively soon at: http://www.coloradogifted.org/legislative.html. This is sponsored by CAGT, and a great opportunity for students to get an up-close view of our legislative process. It will be held on February 20, 2020, and if you (and your students) are from farther away, consider combining the opportunity with another field trip event or career exploration!</p>	<p>Deadline: Opens January 1 and closes January 31 OR when the limit on applicants has been reached (usually before January 31).</p>

Addressing Social-Emotional Needs

Idea #1

SEAD: Social & Emotional Adolescent Development Program. This program has a series of short videos that directly address a variety of topics including anxiety, perfectionism, stress, leadership, post-secondary planning, and student well-being. The website has great contact information, and memberships can be bought for whole schools (varies depending on the number of students) or just for a family (at about \$29/year per family). The website with more information is: <https://theseadprogram.com/>.

Idea #2

Book Resources! Several of you recommended book studies or ideas using one of these resources:

Autonomous Learner Model by George Betts & Jolene Kircher.

When Gifted Kids Don't Have ALL the Answers by Jim Delisle

Living with Intensity by Piechowski & Daniels

I'm Not Just Gifted: Social-Emotional Curriculum for Guiding Gifted Children (Grades 4-7) by Christine Fonseca

Social-Emotional Gifted Teen Series (7 books) by Leutenberg & Liptak

The Terry Bradley binder (if you don't know about this, email Paula at pmcguire@neboces.org.)

Interesting Reads

Jim Delisle released an interesting response to New York City public schools and the proposal to eliminate all gifted programming, titled "Stop Scapegoating Gifted Students for Inequality". If you haven't read it, it was timed to come out the first day of the NAGC Conference, on November 6. Here it is:

<https://www.edweek.org/ew/articles/2019/11/06/stop-scapegoating-gifted-students-for-inequality.html>

Q&A: Can you help?

If you have any ideas for our colleague, especially if your BOCES does an Early Access plan, would you please take a few minutes to email Deb directly with your thoughts?

What tools have you used successfully for Early Access assessment, and who pays for them? Do you feel like your Early Access plan is equally accessible to all families? How do you accomplish this?

Deb Nielsen, SanJuan BOCES
dnielsen@sjboces.org

Resources & Freebies!

Did you know any of these existed? Check out some useful programs your colleagues have found that you may not have known about. While some of these programs may have a cost, remember they have been used different ways (sometimes students/schools are charged to offset costs, sometimes funds are used, etc.). And, of course, who doesn't love to know about the FREE stuff?

1	Great source of articles and resources that could be useful when working on Affective Goals: Teen Health & Wellness. There is some content (check out the "Preview Teen-Created Content" on the bottom) that is free, but a subscription is required for much.	https://teenhealthandwellness.com/
2	CU Boulder does an excellent Science Discovery outreach day that is targeted toward grades 4-8. Schools bring teams of 5 learners and one teacher for a very reasonable cost on themed STEAM ideas.	https://www.colorado.edu/sciencediscovery/

	Contact them directly to see about workshops that they bring to you.	
3	HOPE Scale: This is a quick, one-page behavior scale that can be used for referrals as you need to locally norm the scores. However, it's also a great basis for conversations around implicit bias and getting teacher's thinking a little differently.	https://www.prufrock.com/HOPE-Teacher-Rating-Scale-Mannual-Involving-Teachers-in-Equitable-Identification-of-Gifted-and-Talented-Students-in-K-12-P2525.aspx
4	Byrdseed.TV. It's \$99/year, but <u>worth it</u> . You can create individual classes within it for students to work through video lessons on their own. From a BOCES level, this could be very helpful to assist with that random student here/there. But, if a school really latches on to it, they should purchase their own license. There are discounts for licenses as well in "Districts," but Ian Byrd has allowed it for BOCES in Colorado in the past.	https://www.byrdseed.tv/

This quarter's newsletter author:

Hi all! You know me decently well by now as I've been trying to shepherd us through our time together and use our time effectively and wisely. I work in Northeast Colorado, and live in Akron (population about 1,800). I have four kids, two of which are in college, one in high school, and one in junior high. And, this is my 6th year in gifted education. My favorite food is pizza with red wine--unusual pizzas are fun, but I'll take any! Feel free to reach out to me any time at pmcguire@neboces.org, or using my cell phone at (970) 370-0150.

BIG QUESTION: Is this what you all wanted for a newsletter to share things? If not, let's change it! Say something though because I don't seem to have the power to read minds (ask my kids!).

Who's ready to volunteer to put the next newsletter together? It took me about 90 minutes to do it using the information people put in the Google Form. A new Google Form will go out again in a few weeks, and you just need to put it together mid-January after the holidays. It may take you a little longer if you're not as familiar with formatting in Google Docs, but all help is appreciated (and you might learn something new!). Please email me and let me know!