

AGTSLouisiana Newsletter

Volume 1, Issue 2

Fall 2020



With schools across the state opening in a variety of ways due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, parents were tasked with deciding the best, safest way to educate their kids this fall. Some families are still in transition – moving from a 100% virtual setting to a hybrid or traditional model of schooling.

Regardless of how students receive instruction, related services and support this year, it is imperative that we ensure that special education students receive meaningful educational opportunities in a safe and healthy environment. Louisiana is unique in its mandate to not only identify gifted and talented students, but also to mandate servicing their diverse learning needs. In our great state, a free and appropriate public education means that the education of all gifted and talented students includes the provision of special education and related services that are designed to meet the individual needs of a student.

AGTSLouisiana interim board members have been working hard to be a resource for parents and educators and to provide resources that will inform and empower them to advocate for gifted and talented children in Louisiana during these unprecedented times. Please check out the following resources to see how you can become an advocate for gifted and talented children.

*The twenty-first century can be an era where educational possibilities are limitless and the future for gifted and talented children will once again be a national priority...
Become an active part of this future.
~ Jeff Danielian*

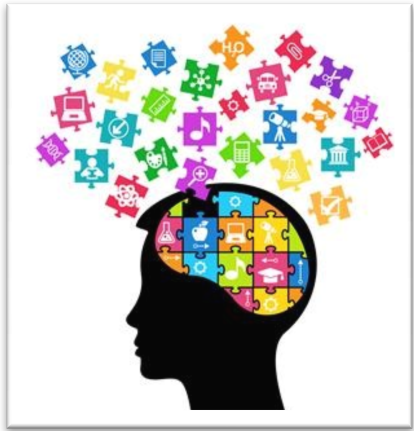
Tips for Advocating G/T Services During the Pandemic

With distance learning and hybrid models in effect, it is important to ensure that all educational and related services are provided to gifted and talented students. Here are some tips from AGTSLA:

- 1) Review the current IEP. Changes in program services may require amending or rewriting the current IEP.
- 2) Work with the IEP team to ensure that educational needs and services are being addressed in the current educational setting.
- 3) Ensure that special class minutes are consistent with state law minimum requirements.
- 4) Keep the lines of communication with the special education teacher open to ensure the continuity of services.



This association is incorporated and shall remain incorporated under the laws of the State of Louisiana as a not-for-profit organization whose name is the Association for Gifted and Talented Students Louisiana. It shall also be known as AGTSLouisiana.



Advocacy Resources

NAGC Parent & Educator Resources

Access free webinars and live chats, COVID-19 research, enrichment and educational resources, and social-emotional support.

<https://www.nagc.org/resources-publications/resources/resources-educators-parents-during-covid-19>

Starting and Sustaining a Parent Group (eBook)

This book is a guide to creating and sustaining a strong parent group centered on ensuring quality gifted education. Created with advice and examples from parents of gifted children who have learned firsthand how to advocate for gifted learners, this eBook is a great first step in learning to work with and encourage others to work together to meet the needs of gifted children.

<https://www.nagc.org/resources-publications/resources-parents/starting-sustaining-parent-group-support-gifted-children>

AGTSLouisiana Updates

The Association for Gifted and Talented Students in Louisiana is now on Facebook! Come build and connect to a community of educators and parents from across the state of Louisiana as we share information, resources and news related to gifted and talented education. Check out our Facebook page at

<https://www.facebook.com/agtslaadvocacy/>.

AGTSLouisiana is proud to be an NAGC affiliate. We are also in partnership with Renzulli Learning Home Edition. As a partner of Renzulli Learning we are very excited to offer a free, one-year subscription to Renzulli Learning Home Edition. This online resource is program that creates a personalized learning plan which includes academics, enrichment, and problem-based learning. It is specially designed to develop talent in gifted and talented children. Click [here](#) to watch a brief video about the program and how the profile setup helps to direct the learning activities for individual students.



To learn more about becoming a member of AGTSLouisiana, visit us at our website, agtslouisiana.org.

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