



**HOUSTON AREA
COOPERATIVE
for the
GIFTED AND
TALENTED
2011-2012**

Introduction

The Houston Area Coop for the Gifted and Talented is pleased to present the 2010-2011 Staff Development Series. Unless otherwise indicated, the sessions are held on Saturdays and offer the opportunity for six hours of professional development in the area of gifted education.

No single school district could afford to bring the number of quality speakers on gifted education that districts cooperating together can bring. We hope that you will take full advantage of this wonderful opportunity for teachers, administrators, counselors, and parents to meet speakers with outstanding credentials in the field of gifted education.

Each host district has provided the session information and the address of the workshop. Participants should consult www.mapquest.com for maps and driving directions.

Most sessions count toward the fulfillment of the core (initial) thirty hours of GT staff development. The description of each session notes the core area (strand) for which the staff development is counted: Nature and Needs of the Gifted, Identification and Assessment of Student Needs, Differentiating Curriculum for the Gifted, Social and Emotional Needs of the Gifted, or Creativity and Instructional Strategies.

Note, however, that some sessions are designed for experienced teachers of the gifted only, and the six hours of staff development is credited toward the annual update requirement.

Professional Expectations

1. Participants are expected to arrive on time and stay for the entire day. Sign-in begins at 8:00 a.m. Please arrive no later than 8:30 a.m. and plan to stay until 4:00 p.m. Sign-in sheets will be picked up from the tables at 8:30 a.m. Sessions will begin promptly at 8:30 a.m. and conclude at 4:00 p.m.
2. Lunch will be from 11:30 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. In order to receive the full six hours of staff development, plan your lunch so that you will return on time for the afternoon session, which will begin promptly at 1:00 p.m.
3. **All attendees are required to wear their district identification badges at all times.** This is an important security measure. Those without their badges will be required to wear a name tag at all times. Creating a name tag will slow registration for the session.
4. Professional conduct is expected at all times. Participants represent their school district. Participants will give their full attention to the presenter, and will refrain from reading newspapers, magazines, or books, grading papers, or engaging in any other distracting activity during the presentation. Please respect the rules of the state and local school district regarding no smoking on school property, limiting food and drinks, cleaning your immediate area when you leave, and taking care not to spill beverages. Cell phones and beepers should be silenced. Co-op sessions are for adults only; no children please.
5. If you have questions about a Houston Area Cooperative session, contact your school district's Co-op representative in the G/T office. All registration, attendance records, and certificates are coordinated by the Co-op representative for your district.
6. Attendees who create a disturbance to others in attendance may be asked to leave by the host school district representative. Certificates will not be issued to attendees who are asked to leave a G/T Co-op session.
7. Late arrivals, either in the morning or upon return from lunch, will not be issued a six-hour certificate on the day of the session. Late arrivals should contact their district Co-op representative regarding making up the time that is missed and receiving a certificate.
8. Usage of cell phones should be limited to break times only, not during workshop presentation. Issuance of GT credit is based on full attendance and participation in workshop presentation.
9. We hope that you will enjoy your day(s) of gifted and talented training. Six hours of G/T credit will be awarded to participants who arrive on time and stay for the entire session. Thank you for participating in this important G/T professional development. We're glad you're here.

**Houston Area Cooperative on the Gifted and Talented
2011-2012 Speaker Series**

DATE	SPEAKER	HOST	TOPIC/STRAND	AUDIENCE
FALL				
10/1/2011	David Sebek	Channelview	Creativity/Instructional Strategies	Teachers K-12
10/15/2011	Leslie Axel	Cypress Fairbanks	Differentiating Curriculum	Teachers K-12
10/29/2011	Dr. Lynette Breedlove	Klein	Identification & Assessment	Teachers K-12
11/5/2011	Dr. Joyce Juntune	Lamar CISD	Update: Closing Verbal-NonVerbal Gap	Teachers K-12
11/12/2011	Dr. Donna Ford	Alief	Social/Emotional	Teachers K-12
12/9/2011	Dr. Joyce Juntune	Lamar CISD	Nature/Needs & Program Options	Administrators, Counselors
12/10/2011	Dr. Joyce Juntune	Tomball	Nature/Needs	Teachers K-12
SPRING				
1/28/2012	Dr. Richard Cash	Katy	Update: Advanced Differentiation	Teachers 4-12
2/11/2012	Jorge Cavazos	Alvin	Update: Internet and GT	Teachers K-12
2/25/2012	Tracy Inman	Spring Branch	Update: Differentiation Book Study	Teachers 9-12
3/3/2012	Michelle Swain	Cypress Fairbanks	Update: Socratic Seminar	Teachers K-12
4/14/2012	Dr. Lynette Breedlove	Fort Bend	TEXES Prep	Teachers K-12
5/5/2012	Dr. Jim Delisle	Klein	Update: Social/Emotional	Teachers K-12

TOPIC: Creativity and Instructional Strategies

AUDIENCE: Teachers, K-12

SPEAKER: David Sebek

David Sebek is an award winning teacher from Fort Bend ISD's Academy for the Gifted and Talented. Over the past decade his work focused on developing campus level enrichment programs and presenting numerous trainings on creativity in education. He also coached numerous creative problem solving teams to the state and international level in the Destination Imagination and Future Problem Solving programs. He is the 2011 TAGT State Teacher of the Year for the Gifted.

DATE: Saturday, October 1st

TIME: 8:30 am – 4:00 pm
(Registration begins 30 minutes prior to session starting.)

LOCATION: Channelview ISD
Channelview High School Auditorium
1100 Sheldon Road
Channelview, Texas 77530

SPECIAL NOTES: Please park in the student lot located off of Crockett Street.

IMPORTANT: Participants who arrive on time and stay for the entire session will receive six hours of G/T staff development credit in the area of Creativity/Instructional Strategies. (Certificates will be distributed at the end of the session.)

TOPIC: Tools for Differentiation

AUDIENCE: Teachers, K–12

SPEAKER: Leslie Axel

Leslie has worked in education for 28 years and has spent the last 12 specializing in gifted education. She currently is an Instruction Specialist in Pasadena Independent School District.

DATE: Saturday, October 15, 2011

TIME: 8:30 am – 4:00 pm
(Registration begins 30 minutes prior to session starting.)

LOCATION: Richard E. Berry Center
Cypress Fairbanks ISD
8877 Barker Cypress Rd.
Cypress, Texas 77433

SPECIAL NOTES: This session will focus on differentiation strategies that challenge and motivate high ability and gifted students. Several strategies that will be included are questioning, depth and complexity, and tired assignments.

IMPORTANT: Participants who arrive on time and stay for the entire session will receive six hours of G/T staff development credit in the area of Curriculum Differentiation of gifted students. (Certificates will be distributed at the end of the session.)

TOPIC: Identification and Assessment of Gifted Students

AUDIENCE: Teachers, K–12

SPEAKER: Lynette Breedlove, Ph.D.

Dr. Breedlove is currently serving as President-Elect of the Texas Association for the Gifted and Talented. She's worked in a variety of school settings and is currently the Director of Advanced Academic Studies and Secondary Counseling in Spring Branch ISD.

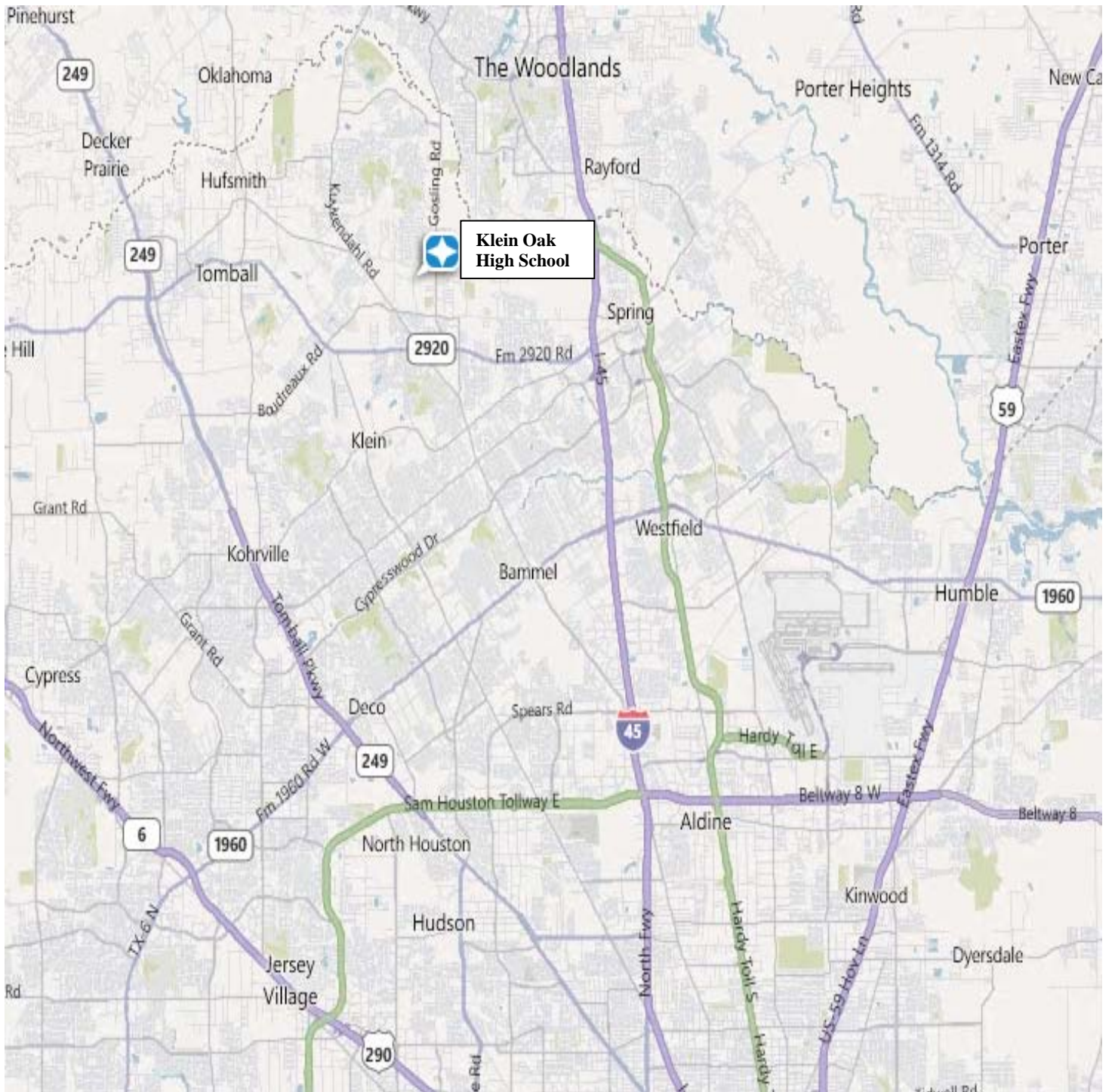
DATE: Saturday, October 29, 2011

TIME: 8:30 am – 4:00 pm
(Registration begins 30 minutes prior to session starting.)

LOCATION: Klein Oak High School
Klein ISD
22603 Northcrest Drive
Spring, TX 77389

SPECIAL NOTES: Auditorium temperatures can fluctuate. Please plan for potentially cold temperatures.

IMPORTANT: Participants who arrive on time and stay for the entire session will receive six hours of G/T staff development credit in the area of Identification and Assessment. (Certificates will be distributed at the end of the session.)



TOPIC: Closing the Gap Between High Nonverbal and Low Verbal Scores of GT Students (Update)

AUDIENCE: Teachers, K–12

SPEAKER: Dr. Joyce Juntune

Dr. Juntune is the Education Director of the Institute for Applied Creativity in the Dept of Educational Psychology at Texas A&M University at College Station. She has served as the Executive Director of both the American Creativity Association and the National Association for Gifted Children. Dr. Juntune is the recipient of numerous awards for her outstanding efforts in gifted education. Dr. Juntune's extensive teaching experience includes students from pre-school through graduate school.

DATE: Saturday, November 5, 2011

**TIME: 8:30 am – 4:00 pm
(Registration begins 30 minutes prior to session starting.)**

**LOCATION: Lamar High School - Auditorium
Lamar CISD
4606 Mustang Ave.
Rosenberg TX 77471**

SPECIAL NOTES: This session will focus on closing the gap between the high nonverbal and low verbal scores of gifted students.

**IMPORTANT: Participants who arrive on time and stay for the entire session will receive six hours of G/T Update staff development credit.
(Certificates will be distributed at the end of the session.)**

TOPIC: Reversing Underachievement Among Gifted Black Students: A Mind is a Terrible Thing to Waste

AUDIENCE: Teachers and Parents, K–12

SPEAKER: Donna Ford, Ph.D.

Donna Y. Ford, Ph.D., is Professor of Education and Human Development at Vanderbilt University. She teaches in the Department of Special Education. Dr. Ford has been a Professor of Special Education at the Ohio State University, an Associate Professor of Educational Psychology at the University of Virginia, and a researcher with the National Research Center on the Gifted and Talented. She also taught at the University of Kentucky.

Professor Ford conducts research primarily in gifted education and multicultural/urban education. Specifically, her work focuses on: (1) recruiting and retaining culturally diverse students in gifted education; (2) multicultural and urban education; (3) minority student achievement and underachievement; and (4) family involvement. She consults with school districts, educational, and legal organizations in the areas of gifted education, Advanced Placement, and multicultural/urban education.

She is the author/co-author of several books, including Reversing Underachievement Among Gifted Black Students (1996, 2010) Multicultural Gifted Education (1999, 2011), In Search of the Dream: Designing Schools and Classrooms that Work for High Potential Students from Diverse Cultural Backgrounds (2004), and Teaching Culturally Diverse Gifted Students (2005).

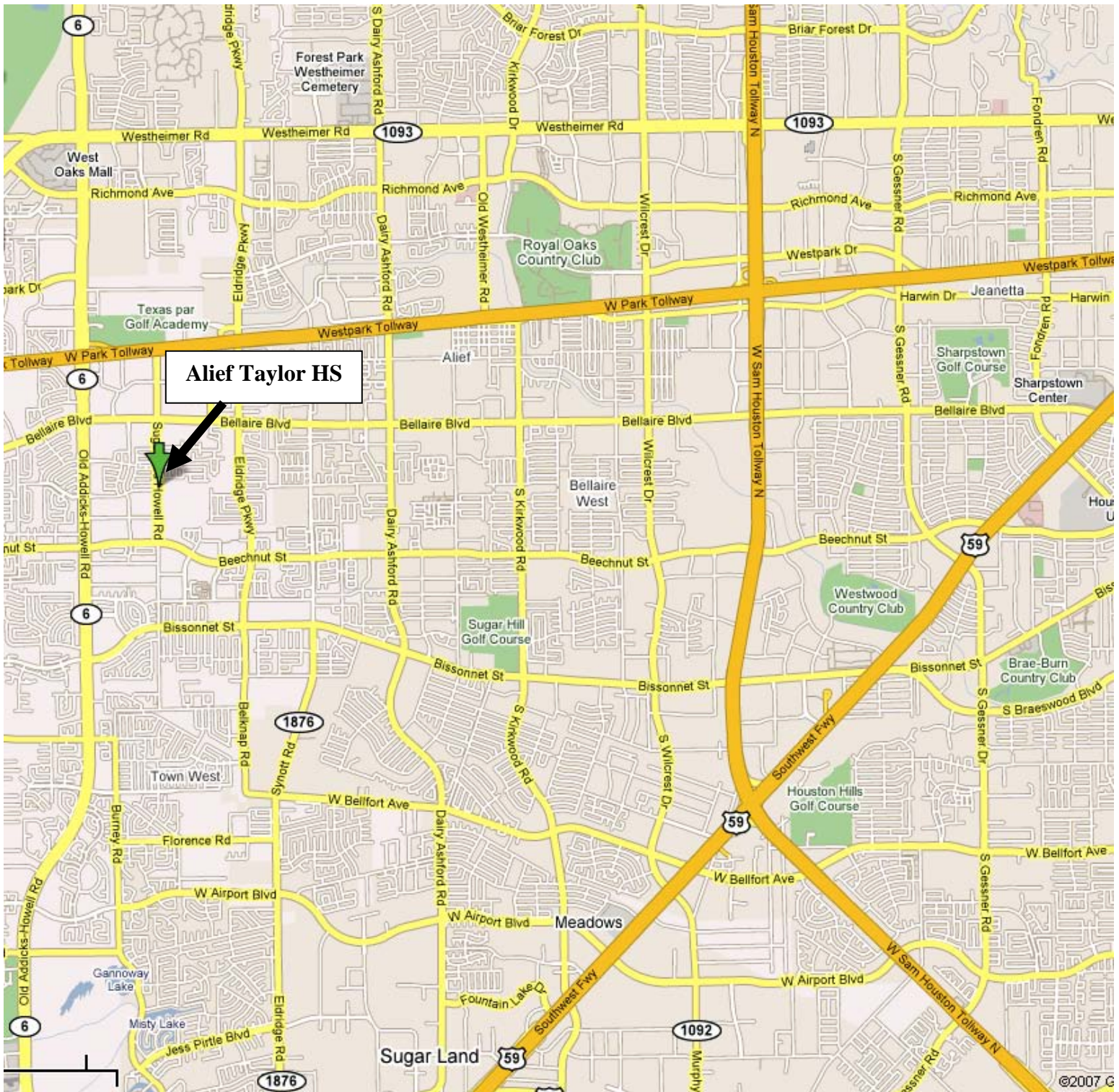
DATE: Saturday, November 12, 2011

TIME: 8:30 am – 4:00 pm
(Registration begins 30 minutes prior to session starting.)

LOCATION: Alief Taylor High School - Alief ISD
7555 Howell Sugar Land Drive
(Located off Bellaire Blvd. between Eldridge Parkway and Highway 6)
Houston, TX 77083

SPECIAL NOTES: When students are gifted, few educators and families think they will underachieve or do poorly in school. However, many do, especially Black students. This workshop focuses on three major topics: achievement gap, underachievement, and under-representation. Learn definitions of underachievement, research, theories, and strategies to prevent and reverse underachievement and under-representation among gifted Black students, with a focus on culturally based learning styles and multicultural literature and curriculum. An underlying principle is that underachievement is learned and underachievement can be unlearned!

IMPORTANT: Participants who arrive on time and stay for the entire session will receive six hours of G/T staff development credit in the area of Social/Emotional. (Certificates will be distributed at the end of the session.)



TOPIC: Nature and Needs of the Gifted and Program Options

AUDIENCE: Administrators and Counselors

SPEAKER: Dr. Joyce Juntune

Dr. Juntune is the Education Director of the Institute for Applied Creativity in the Dept. of Educational Psychology at Texas A&M University at College Station. She has served as the Executive Director of both the American Creativity Association and the National Association for Gifted Children. Dr. Juntune is the recipient of numerous awards for her outstanding efforts in gifted education. Dr. Juntune's extensive teaching experience includes students from pre-school through graduate school.

DATE: Friday, December 9, 2011

TIME: 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

LOCATION: Lamar High School - Auditorium
Lamar CISD
4606 Mustang Ave.
Rosenberg TX 77471

SPECIAL NOTES: This session will focus on the nature and needs of gifted learners including characteristics and common social-emotional needs. Programming options to serve these students will also be discussed. This session satisfies the state requirements of 6 hours of GT professional development for administrators and counselors.

IMPORTANT: Participants who arrive on time and stay for the entire session will receive six hours of G/T staff development credit in the area of Nature and Needs/Program Options. (Certificates will be distributed at the end of the session.)

TOPIC: Nature and Needs of the Gifted Learner

AUDIENCE: Teachers and Parents, K–12

SPEAKER: Dr. Joyce Juntune

Dr. Juntune is the Education Director of the Institute for Applied Creativity in the Dept. of Educational Psychology at Texas A&M University at College Station. She has served as the Executive Director of both the American Creativity Association and the National Association for Gifted Children. Dr. Juntune is the recipient of numerous awards for her outstanding efforts in gifted education. Dr. Juntune's extensive teaching experience includes students from pre-school through graduate school.

DATE: Saturday, December 10, 2011

TIME: 8:30 am – 4:00 pm
(Registration begins 30 minutes prior to session starting.)

LOCATION: Tomball Memorial High School
19100 Northpoint Ridge Ln.
Tomball, TX 77377

SPECIAL NOTES: From 249, exit Northpointe Blvd. and drive west. Drive about 2-3 miles and turn right at Northpointe manor. Turn left at the very next block, Sunset Canyon. There are signs directing participants to the auditorium parking lot.

IMPORTANT: Participants who arrive on time and stay for the entire session will receive six hours of G/T staff development credit in the area of Nature and Needs of gifted students. (Certificates will be distributed at the end of the session.)

TOPIC: **Strengthening Your Instruction for Gifted Students through Advanced Differentiation Strategies (Update)**

AUDIENCE: **Experienced Teachers of the Gifted, Grades 4 - 12**

SPEAKER: **Dr. Richard Cash**

Dr. Richard Cash, a former classroom teacher and curriculum specialist, is now a nationally-recognized author and speaker at professional educational conferences. The focus of his work is on differentiating instruction with 21st century skills in mind. He is the author of *Advancing Differentiation – Thinking and Learning for the 21st Century*.

DATE: **Saturday, January 28, 2012**

TIME: **8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.**

LOCATION: **Katy Independent School District
Education Support Complex, Room 1200
6301 S. Stadium Lane (off FM 1463 just north of I-10)
Katy, TX 77494**

Directions: Westbound on I-10, exit at Pin Oak/FM 1463. Stay to the left on the feeder and continue to the light at FM 1463. Turn right; the KISD ESC is on the left adjacent to the Merrell Center. Enter through the doors marked “Staff Development.”

SPECIAL NOTES: This session will focus on advanced differentiation strategies for teachers who have previously completed the 30 core hours of required GT professional development.

IMPORTANT: **Participants who arrive on time and stay for the entire session will receive six hours of G/T Update credit. Certificates will be distributed at the end of the session.**

TOPIC: The Internet and GT-A World of Possibilities! (Update)

AUDIENCE: Teachers K-12

SPEAKER: Jorge Cavazos

Jorge Cavazos has been teaching for 18 years. He has 15 years experience in the Alief ISD working with gifted students in grades K-6 and training teachers of gifted from Kindergarten to grade 12. He has served as a GT Campus Coordinator and is currently a technology specialist at Budewig Intermediate in Alief ISD. Jorge has presented at both TAGT and TCEA conferences.

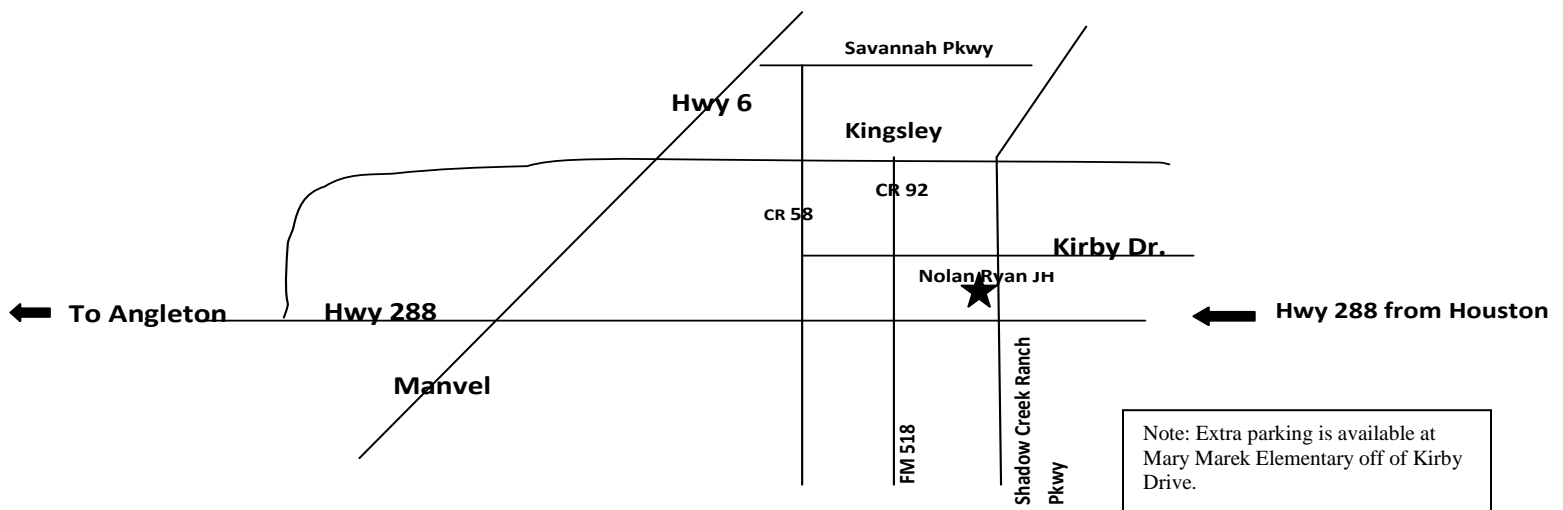
DATE: Saturday, February 11, 2012

TIME: 8:30 am – 4:00 pm
(Registration begins 30 minutes prior to session starting.)

LOCATION: Nolan Ryan Junior High School
Alvin ISD
1500 Shadow Creek Parkway
Pearland, Texas 77584

SPECIAL NOTES: The Internet has a wealth of Web 2.0 resources that can help you create meaningful, engaging lessons that provide depth and complexity for your gifted students. Learn how to create, implement and manage multimedia projects in all content areas using free online resources. After this class Power Point will be a thing of the past! **If you have access to a laptop with wireless access, please bring it to this session.**

IMPORTANT: Participants who arrive on time and stay for the entire session will receive six hours of G/T Update staff development credit. (Certificates will be distributed at the end of the session.)



TOPIC: Strategies for Differentiating Instruction, Book Based Update

AUDIENCE: High School Teachers, 9–12

SPEAKER: Tracy Ford Inman

Associate Director, The Center for Gifted Studies, Western Kentucky University

DATE: Saturday, February 25, 2012

TIME: Math & Science: 8:30 am – 11:30 am
Language Arts & Social Studies: 12:30 pm – 3:30 pm
(Registration begins 30 minutes prior to each session starting.)

LOCATION: Administration Building, Board Room
Spring Branch ISD
955 Campbell Road
Houston, Texas 77024

SPECIAL NOTES:

This is a special workshop designed specifically for teachers of gifted students in high school. It is a book study hybrid course in which high school teachers will read a book, complete a study guide, then spend three face to face hours working with the author of the book.

The face to face workshop will focus on applying the strategies described in the book. Teachers will be grouped with others from multiple school districts who teach similar secondary courses. This is a unique opportunity to delve deeply into the interaction between the secondary content and differentiation strategies.

In order to enter the face to face workshop, participants MUST bring a copy of *Strategies for Differentiating Instruction* by Inman and Roberts AND a completed study guide for the book. Study guides are available from your district GT director/coordinator.

IMPORTANT: Participants who arrive on time and stay for the entire session will receive six hours of G/T Update staff development credit. (Certificates will be distributed at the end of the session.)

TOPIC: Using Socratic Seminars to Engage Students in Critical Thinking (Update)

AUDIENCE: Teachers, K–12

SPEAKER: Michelle Swain

Michelle Swain currently serves as the Director of Gifted and Advanced Academic Services for the Round Rock Independent School District, a position she has held for seven eight years. Prior to that she worked with gifted students at the campus and district level in Austin ISD. Michelle is active in the Texas Association for the Gifted and Talented, serving as 2011 President after several years in various positions on the TAGT Board. Michelle has a passion for ensuring the cognitive and affective needs of advanced and gifted learners are met and strives to support teachers in their efforts to do so. Socratic seminars is one of her favorite strategies for addressing these needs.

DATE: Saturday, March 3, 2012

TIME: 8:30 am – 4:00 pm
(Registration begins 30 minutes prior to session starting.)

LOCATION: Richard E. Berry Center
Cypress Fairbanks ISD
8877 Barker Cypress Rd.
Cypress, Texas 77433

SPECIAL NOTES: Using a strategy that dates back to ancient times, Socratic questioning can offer an engaging and practical way for students to develop critical thinking and reasoning skills. This learning model focuses attention on reading skills, inquiry, and practice in supporting ideas with evidence from a selected text. Focused on a structured discussion method, students learn skills and deepen their collective understanding of content-related material. In this session we will discuss Socratic questioning, including question stems, learn the process for applying Socratic questioning in a seminar format, including the behaviors of the facilitator and participants, selection of text, and selection of questions, and practice a Socratic seminar.

IMPORTANT: Participants who arrive on time and stay for the entire session will receive six hours of G/T Update staff development credit.
(Certificates will be distributed at the end of the session.)

TOPIC: Preparing for the TExES GT Supplemental Certification

AUDIENCE: Teachers, K-12, who have completed their initial 30 hours and want to become certified in gifted education by taking the Gifted and Talented Supplemental Certification exam offered by SBEC

SPEAKER: Lynette Breedlove, Ph.D.

Dr. Breedlove is currently serving as President-Elect of the Texas Association for the Gifted and Talented. She's worked in a variety of school settings and is currently the Director of Advanced Academic Studies and Secondary Counseling in Spring Branch ISD.

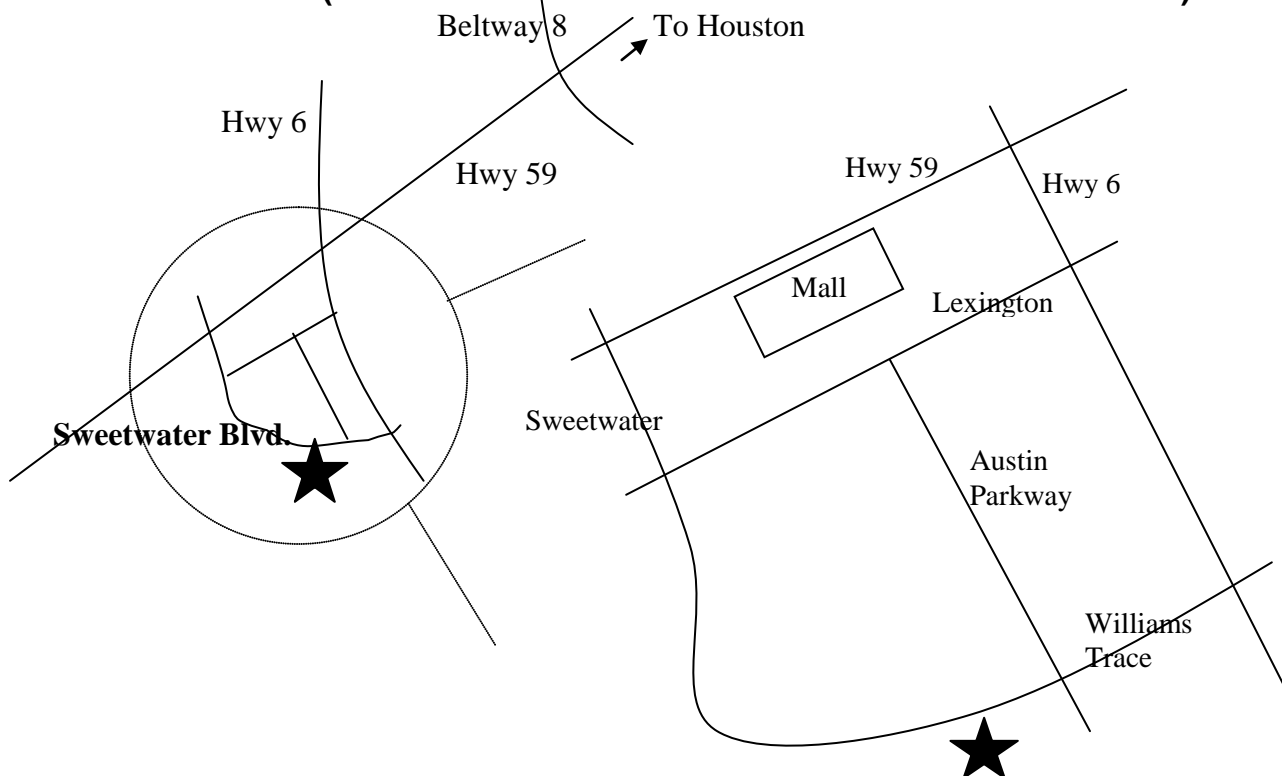
DATE: Saturday, April 14, 2012

TIME: 8:30 am – 4:00 pm
(Registration begins 30 minutes prior to session starting)

LOCATION: Fort Bend ISD Administrative Annex
3119 Sweetwater Blvd.
Sugar Land, TX 77479

SPECIAL NOTES: This session is NOT for initial core credit. Teachers attending this session must have already completed their 30 clock hours of core GT training. The purpose of this session is to prepare participants for the GT TExES Exam. Participants should register for the GT TExES Exam at www.texas.ets.org.

IMPORTANT: Participants who arrive on time and stay for the entire session will receive six hours of G/T Update staff development credit. (Certificates will be distributed at the end of the session.)



TOPIC: Meeting the Intellectual and Emotional Needs of Gifted Children in a School Setting (Update)

AUDIENCE: Teachers, K-12

SPEAKER: Jim Delisle, Ph.D.

Dr. Jim Delisle has more than 30 years of experience as a teacher, counselor, college professor, and parent of gifted students. His up-front, insightful, and personal approach to the education and guidance of gifted children and adolescents has led him to become one of America's favorite experts on the topic. Dr. Delisle has written more than 14 books on gifted education, including: *The Gifted Kids Survival Guide*, *Growing Good Kids*, *When Gifted Kids Don't Have All the Answers: How to Meet Their Social and Emotional Needs*, *Parenting Gifted Kids*, *Smart Talk: What Kids Say About Growing Up Gifted*, and *More Than A Test Score: Teens Talk about Being Gifted, Talented, or Otherwise Extra-Ordinary*.

DATE: Saturday, May 5, 2012

TIME: 8:30 am – 4:00 pm
(Registration begins 30 minutes prior to session starting.)

LOCATION: Klein Oak High School
Klein ISD
22603 Northcrest Drive
Spring, TX 77389

SPECIAL NOTES: Gifted children and teens possess unique intellectual and emotional needs that must be understood before they can be addressed in a school setting. In this session, Dr. Delisle reviews these needs, including understanding the emotional intensities that often accompany giftedness, accepting personal imperfections (and those of others), finding and keeping true friends, and enjoying one's abilities in the context of the wider world. Following this overview, Dr. Delisle will highlight classroom-tested lessons and strategies that instill compassion, self-awareness and leadership among students.

Please note the temperatures in the auditorium fluctuate. Be prepared for cold temperatures.

IMPORTANT: Participants who arrive on time and stay for the entire session will receive six hours of G/T Update staff development credit.
(Certificates will be distributed at the end of the session.)

