



JEFFERSON COUNTY ASSOCIATION
FOR GIFTED CHILDREN



March 2021

Hello Families,

Hybrid students in grades 6-12 will return to full in-person learning in a phased approach beginning March 15 through April 5. Stay tuned to announcements from Jeffco and your schools. If you have questions, contact your school administration.

Now open: Jeffco GT Dept. [SPARKS](#) summer enrichment program registration. Sign up by March 14.

See the recap of the [JAGC GT Town Hall](#) on Feb. 18 featuring Dr. Susan Leach, Jeffco Chief Student Success Officer.

JAGC board [nominations](#) are due by March 4. Join the board and help us advocate for our advanced learners!

Recognize a GT Champion by [nominating](#) them for the JAGC GT Champion award by March 31.



JAGC Info



Join the JAGC Board!

[JAGC Board Election - Nominations Open Until March 4](#)

Nominations are open for next year's JAGC Board of Directors. Terms run for two years from July 1 to June 30. Nominations will be accepted through March 4.

Look for an email from the JAGC Nominating Committee with details on available positions, the nominating procedure and the election process. See the [JAGC website](#) for more information on the election process and the [nomination form](#).

You must be a CAGT member to vote in the spring JAGC election. [Become a member](#) today and help us advocate for Jeffco advanced learners! When you register, be sure to select Jeffco as your affiliate.

[Nominate Your 2021 GT Champion by March 31](#)

JAGC's GT Champion Award recognizes those in the Jeffco gifted community who are making an exemplary effort for our GT students. If you would like to nominate a person who has shown outstanding performance, please [complete this form](#).



There will be one winner from each of these categories:

- School Administrator
- Teacher/School Staff Member
- Parent/Community Member
- Student

For more information visit the JAGC website [GT Champion page](#).

[JAGC Feb. 18 GT Town Hall Recap](#)

See the event video, slides and resources on the [Town Hall website](#).

Have Questions or Concerns? Contact JAGC

Hybrid and remote school this year is new for everyone. If you have questions or concerns or need help, [email us](#) or post on our [Facebook](#) or [Instagram](#) pages. We want to hear from

you!

Join JAGC



Jeffco GT Dept. Info

SPARKS

[SPARKS GT Summer Program - Registration Opens March 1](#)

The SPARKS Enrichment Program for Jeffco Gifted & Talented learners will be at Wheat Ridge High School from June 7-11. Registration will be open March 1-14 and enrollment will be by lottery. The Jeffco GT Dept. will send a registration link and course options to families of all students with Advanced Learning Plans or in GT Centers.

SPARKS is a summer experience for district GT students entering 1st through 8th grade. Classes provide an engaging learning environment in a variety of topics for Jeffco gifted students. Classes will be limited to 15 students to maximize social distancing and safety procedures will be followed. Limited scholarships are available. See the [Jeffco GT website](#) for more information.

Early Access for Ages 4-5 - Portfolios Due March 24

Early Access to kindergarten is for four-year-olds, as an exception to the normal age requirements per Jeffco Board Policy JEB. This is for children who are highly gifted (97th percentile or higher) and who would benefit from acceleration. Please [click here](#) for a link to the early access module. For more information about early access please visit the [Early Access website](#).



Jeffco Gifted & Talented Advisory Committee

GTAC meets throughout the year and is a committee of parents, students, teachers and administrators. Currently they are working on the large project of common GT programming expectations for all Jeffco schools. You can find their meeting minutes [here](#).

Updated GT Dept. Website

Jeffco Gifted & Talented Department has revamped their [website](#) and continues supplementing the content. You can also keep up with the Jeffco Gifted & Talented Department through their [Facebook](#) page.



Jeffco News

Middle Schoolers Can Earn High School Credit

The Board of Education approved changes to district policy on graduation requirements allowing middle school students who complete certain math and world language courses to earn high school graduation credit beginning in the fall of 2021 (Board Policy [IKF](#)). Middle schools are in the planning process to implement this change. Watch for communication from your middle school to learn more.

Remote Learning Option for 2021-22 School Year

Jeffco's plan is to offer full-time in-person learning for all grades, as well as a centrally run PK-12 remote learning option with synchronous instruction. Families will have the opportunity to select the central remote learning program for the 2021-22 school year in early March.

Details for the remote learning program are still being determined. Remote learning was ideal for some students who would like to continue with this model even when COVID-19 restrictions end. Families who want to continue with remote learning in the next school year should still complete the EnrollJeffco process (open now) if they haven't already. This lets Jeffco know which families intend to return to Jeffco Public Schools and helps with budget and staff planning.



Calendar & Events

[CU Science Wizards - March 13](#)

Prof. Eric Cornell presents "Speed!" on Saturday, March 13 via Zoom.

[JAGC Calendar - Activities, Events & Conferences](#)

[Broomfield area events](#)

[Denver area things to do](#)

[Denver Area TedX Conferences](#)

[Denver Mensa Speaker Series](#)

[PEN Parent Engagement Network Events](#)

[Belin-Blank Center Gifted Education online classes and conferences](#)

[Hoagies Gifted List of Conferences](#)

**Conversations with CAGT - Tuesdays at 5 PM
on Facebook Live**

All of the sessions are on the [CAGT website](#) and on their [Facebook page](#) and [YouTube channel](#).



For Parents

[CDE PEP Online Conferences - Register by March 5](#)

PEP (Parents Encouraging Parents) Conferences are free events to promote family and school partnerships that are essential in supporting students with disabilities and their families in schools and the community. PEP brings parents and professionals together by sharing ideas, discussing concerns, celebrating successes and obtaining information related to parenting, educating and partnering to support student learning.

Spring PEP dates:

Friday evening, March 19–6:30-9:30 PM (3 hours)

Saturday, March 20–8:15 AM-12:15 PM (4 hours)

Saturday, March 27–9:15-11:45 AM (2 hours)

Saturday, April 3–8:45 AM-12:45 PM (4 hours)

[Free Bright & Quirky Child Summit - March 8-12](#)

An event to help your bright child live their best life, even with learning, social, emotional and/or behavioral challenges.

[2e Parent Support Group](#)

For parents of 2e children who are identified as intellectually gifted and have autism, ADHD, sensory processing disorder, dyslexia or a combination of any of these. Meets virtually the first and third Saturday of every month from 10:30-11:30 AM. To register and receive the zoom meeting link, visit the [Social and Support Groups page](#), scroll to the group you want to register for and click the link to register. Email Bev at program@autismcolorado.org for more information.

[Ongoing SENG Parent Support Groups](#)

Parents, are you looking for support? Supporting Emotional Needs of the Gifted (SENG) online support groups are designed to address the unique issues, needs and challenges faced by gifted families. The website lists upcoming groups.





For Students

[Girls and Science Virtual Events - March](#)

Denver Museum of Nature and Science presents Girls & Science To Go, a free take-home activity kit that includes a collection of fun and inspiring activities.

[International Women's Day Highlights National Security Careers - March 8](#)

Denver nonprofit WorldDenver will focus on women in national security with a free virtual event on March 8 from 11 AM-1 PM. The event will feature Lauren Bean Buitta, CEO of Girl Security, MSU Denver president Dr. Janine Davidson and U.S. Congresswoman Elisa Slotkin.

[Yunasa West Summer Camp for Gifted Youth - Apply by March 15](#)

Designed and led by eminent experts in the field of gifted youth, Yunasa embraces gifted children for who they are, helping them understand and work with the unique joys and challenges that gifted children face. Located at YMCA Camp Shady in Deckers, CO.

[Belin-Blank Virtual Summer Research Scholars - Apply by March 24](#)

Students currently in grades 9–10 may apply for the Perry Research Scholars Institute July 12-23. Meet researchers across many different fields, such as anthropology, business, education, engineering, medicine, psychology, sustainability and more.

[Gap Year consulting and mentoring](#)

Gap Year Solutions free webinars and free initial consultations to interested students

[GT student opportunities from the Jeffco GT Department](#)

[Lockheed Martin STEM opportunities for students](#)

[Denver Pioneer drama playwriting contest & musical/play submissions](#)

[CU Science Discovery K-12 programs](#)

STEM at home kits, virtual STEM academies, mountain research experience, school year and summer camps

National Programs

[Belin-Blank Gifted Center spring programs](#)

[Spring writing courses at the Belin-Blank Center for Gifted Education](#)

[Varsity Tutors live online classes \(free and paid\)](#)

[Free tutoring for high schoolers at Schoolhouse World \(Khan Academy\)](#)

[Bright & Quirky virtual programs for kids](#)

[Curated Collections for Gifted Kids \(Belin-Blank Center\)](#)

Scholarships

[Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado Scholarship - Apply by March 31](#)

VOC annually offers four \$5,000 scholarships to eligible Colorado residents who have demonstrated a commitment to caring for our environment's natural resources and intend to pursue post-secondary education through an accredited environmental, natural resource, climate or outdoor industry related education program in Colorado.



[Lockheed-Martin STEM Scholarship - Apply by April 1](#)

Lockheed Martin awards 200 scholarships of \$10,000 per student, renewable each year. Mentoring opportunities are a key component of the program, and recipients are eligible for Lockheed Martin internship opportunities following their freshman year in college.



[JCEA Scholarships - Apply by April 18](#)

The Jefferson County Education Association (JCEA) awards several scholarships to seniors who attend Jeffco Public Schools.

--The JCEA Excellence Fund Scholarship

Awarded to a Jefferson County high school senior entering college the following year to pursue a degree in education. Each scholarship is for \$1,000 per year and can be renewed for up to four years (\$4,000 total).



--Sue Anne Berger Physical Science Scholarship

Awarded to two graduating seniors from the Jeffco Public Schools who intend to study the physical sciences or related fields. Each scholarship starts with \$1000 and is increased by \$1,000 each year, up to four years (\$10,000 total).

--The JCEA Shermita West Student of Color Scholarship

Annual award given to a Jeffco high school student of color who is pursuing a career in education. Each scholarship is for \$1,000 per year and may be renewed for up to four years (\$4,000 total)..

National Scholarships

[Jack Kent Cooke Foundation Young Scholars Program - Apply by March 22](#)

The Jack Kent Cooke Foundation Young Scholars Program is a selective five-year, pre-college scholarship for high-performing 7th grade students with financial need. It provides academic advising, along with financial support for school, summer programs, internships, and other learning enrichment opportunities. Eligible applicants should:

- Be entering 8th grade in the fall of 2021.
- Have earned all As and Bs since the beginning of 6th grade.
- Reside in the U.S. and plan to attend high school in the U.S.
- Demonstrate financial need with a maximum adjusted gross income of \$95,000.

[Davidson Young Scholars Program – Applications Due First of Each Month](#)

The Davidson Young Scholars program provides free services designed to nurture and support profoundly gifted young people and their families, including talent development, educational advocacy, an online community and the Ambassadors program. Young Scholars can also access annual get-togethers, a summer camp for 8- to 12-year-olds and challenging online middle school courses.



College News

College Resources

[Area college & job fairs](#)

[College Fairs of Greater Denver](#)

[College application deadlines](#)



Resources

Recent GT Articles & Podcasts

[Social Development of the Gifted \(Gifted Development Center\)](#)

[Finding The Right Music Teacher For Your Musically Talented Child \(Gifted Challenges\)](#)

[The Role Of Logical-Mathematical Intelligence In Problem Solving \(The Edvocate\)](#)

[Standardized Testing and Executive Function Deficits \(2e News\)](#)

[Gifted Kid Burnout \(#gtchat\)](#)

[How to Make Summer Plans When Everything is Uncertain \(New York Times\)](#)

[My Screen Time Guilt Was Through the Roof - So I Made 4 Simple Changes \(Today's Parent\)](#)

[What Do I Do With My Early Finishers \(Byrdseed\)](#)

[How to Help Your Gifted Child Build Resilience: Reframing Failure \(Gifted Challenges\)](#)

Summer Programs

[JAGC summer programs list](#)

[Yunasa West Summer Camp for Gifted Youth - Apply by March 15](#)

[Camp Invention STEM program for K-6 \(Several locations in Denver\)](#)
[Davidson Institute summer programs](#)
[Summer Institute for the Gifted](#)
[Princeton summer journalism program](#)
[Epsilon Camp math camp for young PG children](#)



Newsletter Links

For Parents New to GT - Jeffco GT Dept. Info and GT 101 - Parent Info - Student Programs & Enrichment - Homework Help - Scholarships - College Prep - National GT Resources

[Jefferson County Association for Gifted Children \(JAGC\)](#) is a nonprofit group providing leadership and support to families and educators of advanced learners in Jefferson County, Colorado.
Jeffcogifted.org

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