



JEFFERSON COUNTY ASSOCIATION  
FOR GIFTED CHILDREN



## October 2020

**How is the "new normal" going for your family?** We're all learning to adjust and help our kids continue to learn. This month's GT Dept. speaker Oct. 5 addresses student self-advocacy, a great skill set in normal times and even more important when we're connected virtually.

**JAGC President Guy Nahmiach's School Crossing** article addresses another aspect of our challenging times. "I am suggesting using these abnormal times in our lives to teach our children an abnormal mindset on how to lose. We teach them how to win and be gracious about it...but one can never truly appreciate winning without losing. Learning to take criticism constructively and understanding where we failed as to gain from the experience." [Find the rest of the article here.](#)



### 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](#) page. We want to hear from our families!



**Jeffco GT  
Parent  
Seminar**  
The Power of  
Self-Advocacy for  
Gifted Learners

Featuring  
Deb Douglas

**Monday, Oct. 5, 6:30-8 PM**  
Register to join via Zoom

[Parent/Family Learning Virtual Seminar: The Power of Self-Advocacy - Oct. 5](#)

Join Deb Douglas from 6:30-8 PM as she reveals the many ways we can partner with students, bolster their resiliency, support their needs, and guide them toward self-advocacy. [RSVP required.](#)

**Changes in GT Staffing This Year**

A large number of GT staff have been reassigned to cover classrooms this year. The GT Dept. appreciates everyone's patience and understanding!

[List of Jeffco GT staff](#)



**Gifted & Talented Center Placement & Advanced Learning Plans - Applications Due Oct. 14**

Wondering if you should apply for Gifted & Talented Center placement or an Advanced Learning Plan (ALP)? You can find the presentation from last year's GT Information Night [here](#) or you can contact JAGC with questions at [info@jeffcogifted.org](mailto:info@jeffcogifted.org).

**Applications for Gifted & Talented Center** placement and the Advanced Learning Plan (ALP) close at 4 PM on Oct. 14. Find more information on Jeffco gifted & talented identification [here](#).

--[Gifted Center Application](#)

--[Advanced Learning Plan \(ALP\) application](#) This form should be completed for students who are only seeking gifted & talented identification for an Advanced Learning Plan (ALP), are planning to remain at their current neighborhood, option or charter school, and are not interested in attending a GT

Center school.

**Once forms are submitted**, you will be notified of your child's testing date, either on Oct. 10 or Oct. 24. This is the only testing that will occur during the 2020-2021 school year.

### **Advanced Learning Plans: New Process for Grades 6-12**

Jeffco GT is moving to a new system for Advanced Learning Plans that will be introduced in the coming months. Each year GT learners in Jeffco write one academic and one affective goal. That process will continue for elementary learners. In the past, secondary students have written and stored these goals in a tool called Naviance.

**To make accessing the goals easier** for students, teachers, and families, ALP goal setting and monitoring process has moved to a new tool called SOARS for all grade levels (K-12). NAVIANCE will no longer be used for ALPs. For this initial rollout (2020-2021), GT Resource Teachers will be managing the process for your school and students. School staff will be supporting the goals at school.

**Students will be receiving an email** in the next several weeks titled "Initial ALP Questionnaire." They will learn [how to access this new student portal](#) and answer the questionnaire to set their goals. The portal also includes links to videos to help them understand how to think about their goals, as well as a hyperdoc of suggested goal topics. Students may want to utilize these tools before completing the questionnaire.

**Ask your child to look for this email** and to complete it when it arrives. You may also want to discuss these goals with your child. Once the goals have been set, you may find it helpful to encourage your child to log back into the portal every week or so and consider what progress is being made toward the goal.



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



### CAGT Virtual Conference - Oct. 19-20

Normally \$400 for both days, the virtual conference is \$290 and includes access to every recorded conference session until Jan. 2021. The virtual [Family Institute](#) for families or any adult raising gifted children is Oct. 19 from 5:30-9 PM and is \$20. Presentations will be available to registrants for a limited time after the event.



### Helping Kids Thrive Parent Conference - Sept. 30-Oct. 1

This free virtual event from the Jefferson Center for Mental Health provides hands-on practical information for parents, caregivers and guardians to help children of all ages grow in positive ways. Both days from 5-9 PM.



### Center for Bright Kids Western Academic Talent Search (WATS) for Gifted Students Grades 3-9 - Testing Starts in Oct.

Center for Bright Kids (CBK) is the regional talent center in the Rocky Mountain area serving seven states and providing summer and other youth programs. Testing runs from October-Feb. Please see the [CBK website](#) for testing options this year.



### Congressional App Challenge - Due Oct. 19

Middle school and high school students are invited to participate in the Congressional App Challenge. Apps are due Oct. 18. Colorado Congressman Joe Neguse is hosting a virtual App-a-Thon on Oct. 8 from 3-6 PM where students, teachers and coders are invited to work together to create apps for the challenge. Register at [www.NeguseAppChallenge.com](http://www.NeguseAppChallenge.com).

## Student Opportunity: Join Jeffco's GTAC

Jeffco's [Gifted & Talented Advisory Council \(GTAC\)](#) needs student representatives! GTAC provides the GT Department with vital input from all stakeholders. There are student slots available in south Jeffco (Chatfield, Columbine, Bear Creek and Dakota Ridge articulation areas) and central Jeffco (Alameda, Lakewood, Jefferson, Wheat Ridge, Golden, Green Mountain). If interested, email [gtinform@jeffco.k12.co.us](mailto:gtinform@jeffco.k12.co.us). The next [GTAC](#) virtual meeting is Oct. 12 from 6-7:30 PM.



### [Colorado FREE Application Day for College - Oct. 13](#)

All 32 public colleges and universities in Colorado and several private institutions will allow students to apply for free.

[Area College & Job Fairs](#)

[Denver National College Fair - Oct. 4](#)

[Rocky Mountain Virtual College Fair - Oct. 5-9](#)

[College Fairs of Greater Denver](#)



## Learning Supports

[Examples of Student Introductions for Teachers](#)

[Translating IEP Goals to Home During COVID Using SEL Fundamentals](#)

[Sample Virtual IEP Meeting](#)

[How to Speak IEP](#)



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

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[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](http://Jeffcogifted.org)

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