



### TAG "To Do"

Talk to your teachers about how they assess your rate and level of learning in the classroom.

Keep an eye on your school's TAG board for information and **announcements**

### Pre09th grade credit

High School credit will be granted and a grade recorded on the transcript for each student who successfully (C or better) completes a designated high school course prior to ninth grade. These grades will be included the student's high school cumulative grade point average.

If the parent or guardian does not want credit to be granted or the grade to be recorded to be recorded on the student's high school transcript, he/she must make a written request by completing a form available at the school by May 1st

### Parent Organizations:

More listings on TAG web site [tag.pps.k12.or.us](http://tag.pps.k12.or.us) under "Resources & Links"

**OATAG** [www.oatag.org](http://www.oatag.org)  
Oregon Assn. of Talented & Gifted

**WAETAG** [www.waetag.org](http://www.waetag.org)  
Washington Assn

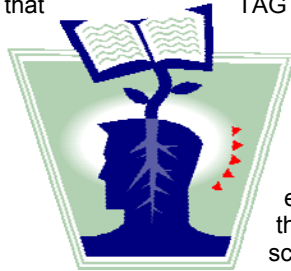
**NAGC** [www.nagc.org](http://www.nagc.org)  
National Assn of Gifted



## I'm still in TAG?

*Note: This article may seem familiar. It's reformatted from 2007.*

When we meet with middle and high school students, it's not uncommon to hear, "I'm still in TAG?" It's important to know that



TAG isn't something a student is "In", like a club, but a way students are identified as academically talented in Reading and/or Math or as Intellectually Gifted. Sometimes this identification happened back in the early elementary grades and sometimes this identification happens in middle school or high school.

In Oregon, the TAG mandate states that students identified as TAG should receive instruction at their appropriate rate and level. A good conversation to have with teachers would focus on how each teacher assesses or evaluates what a student already knows and the appropriate rate and level of instruction prior to beginning a particular unit of study.

In rare instances when a student's academic and intellectual needs aren't met in a classroom, high school students should speak with their counselors about a more appropriate placement. Keep in mind that the priority is to have all students' needs met in the classroom.

Parents and TAG students are encouraged to meet with teachers and administrators and to discuss the TAG Services available at their school and request a written TAG plan if needed.

## Building TAG Plans

All schools have TAG Plans which focus whole building's efforts for meeting the needs of TAG students. These plans were drafted in the spring with parent, teacher and administrator input. They were designed to tell how the school serves its TAG students. You'll see how teachers know who the TAG students in their class are, how the building will strive to identify new students for TAG services, how the teacher and building will strive to meet the academic needs of each student, how teachers will strive to improve their professional work, and how the school will communicate

with parents and families. The plan will also show how all these efforts will be documented. Look for this Plan on the school TAG Bulletin Board.

There are multiple ways schools will reach out to parents for information and with information. One is the Parent and Student Surveys for TAG Planning, which is meant for teachers to know how your student learns and how to help them with their learning. This document is available on the TAG website [tag.pps.k12.or.us](http://tag.pps.k12.or.us).

You will see regular written communication from the school throughout the school year. Your school may have a newsletter, listserv, or teacher newsletters. Look for these to tell you of past or future events, as well as how teachers are currently differentiating instruction for TAG students.

Your child's school may also ask you to help them evaluate the services the school provides for TAG students. This might be a survey or as part of a committee when writing a new Plan for 2010-2011.

## Greetings from the District TAG Office

We hope that you will find important and timely information in this fall's edition of the district's TAG Newsletter. I encourage you to read the articles and check out the many internet links to regional and national websites that provide the latest research and resource information in support of the education of gifted children.

In addition to the support you're receiving at your child's school related to Talented and Gifted Education, please know that the district TAG office is here to serve you. You may contact us at 503-916-3358 or at the district website at [tag.pps.k12.or.us](http://tag.pps.k12.or.us) at any time.

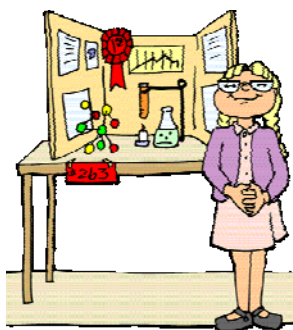
Sincerely,

Patricia (Pat) Thompson,  
Talented & Gifted Program  
Administrator

## Science Expo

Portland Public Schools Science is pleased to announce that we will host an ISEF affiliated Science Fair March 4, 2010@ Benson High School for High School students. Students interested in scientific inquiry and presenting their projects in the Region fair need to qualify in a local Fair. To qualify for the Northwest Science Expo and The Intel ISEF Science Expo in San Jose, California in May 2010 get involved go to [nwse.org](http://nwse.org) for more information and registration forms.

Talk to your science teacher and express your interest.



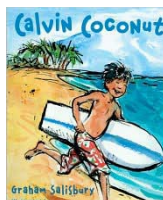
Let's get this party started!

## Oregon Writing Festival



The 26th Annual Oregon Writing Festival will take place on **Saturday, May 1, 2010**, at Portland State University... and **YOU** can be a vital part of this outstanding event for students.

Keynote speakers will be Graham Salisbury and Lawson Inada, Graham is the author of numerous award-winning children's and young adult books including *Under the Blood- Red Sun*, *Eyes of the Emperor*, *House of the Red Fish*, *Night of the Howling Dogs*, and *Calvin Coconut*, *Trouble Magnet*.



, Oregon Poet Laureate, is the author of five books and editor of three volumes.

Oregon students grades 4-12 gather to share their writing and learn from one another. For more information go to [www.octe.org](http://www.octe.org)

Portland Public Schools student contact your school administrator for information about how to join other students at your school.

## Spelldown in Portland Public Schools

Portland Public Schools students excelled in the 2009 annual Multnomah County Spelling Contest held in May, with four PPS students placing third or better across the three age divisions.

To qualify for the county contest, students first had to compete in spelling bees held within school districts — a contest called **SpellDown** in Portland Public Schools.

Check with your school for dates for this year's dates.

Division 1: Gr. 305

Division 2: Gr 6-8

Division 3: Gr 9-12

Winners of all 3 divisions go on to Multnomah County. Top winner in each County division will go to the State Spelling Bee in Salem.



We're on the Web.  
[tag.pps.k12.or.us](http://tag.pps.k12.or.us)

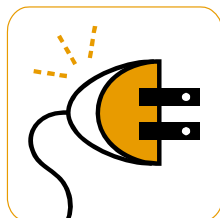
"It is the supreme art of the teacher to awaken joy in creative expression and knowledge."

– Albert Einstein

## The TAG Advisory Council...

The TAG Advisory Council (TAGAC) is composed of parents with children in Portland Public Schools (PPS). The TAGAC meets five times a year and provides PPS with information regarding the needs of TAG students. Topics discussed at the meetings include testing, whole grade advancement (skipping a grade), single-subject acceleration, and, in general, how acceleration is best accomplished.

The TAGAC is supposed to represent all school clusters, but currently this is not the case.



**We need you!** If you are interested in becoming involved, please email me: Craig Daniels at [craig.tagac@gmail.com](mailto:craig.tagac@gmail.com). I am the TAGAC Chair this year. If you don't want to join but would like to get periodic information from us, email me about that too. Our co-chair this year is Sacha Gilbert Waggoner, from ACCESS.

### Tips on Advocating for Your TAG Child

The first and most important thing you can do is to get to know your child's teacher. If things are not going the way you want, his or her teacher is the first place to go. It can be tempting to talk to the principal but the first thing the principal will do is to refer you back to the teacher. If that works, great, if not, then a conversation with the principal is the next step. The next step would be to call the district TAG office, 503-916-3358.

Somewhere along the way you will probably want to learn more about either TAG in PPS or about TAG and your child. A couple of places to start are: PPS's site: [tag.pps.k12.or.us](http://tag.pps.k12.or.us) and a non-PPS site: [hoagiesgifted.org/](http://hoagiesgifted.org/).

TAGAC has an email listserve for parents of TAG students in PPS. This listserve is parent run, not part of PPS. If you want to be part of listserv, send an email to [XL-PDX-subscribe@yahoo.com](mailto:XL-PDX-subscribe@yahoo.com) and put "subscribe" in the body of the message -- the subject won't be enough. If you need help and can't figure out what to do, contact the TAG Office or email me.

The TAG Advisory Council meetings are from noon till 1:30 at BESC, 501 N. Dixon, January 20th, March 17th, and May 19th.

## Parents want to know...



### Questions parents ask teachers regarding Classroom Instruction:

- What assessments do you use to determine my child's rate and level of learning?
- How does my child demonstrate to you that he/she learned what you expected him/her to learn?

- What are you doing if you discover he/she already knows the material you're teaching?
- What opportunities will my child have to learn with other students who have similar rates and/or levels of learning?

### Questions parents ask regarding TAG Building Plans:

- What data does the school use to demonstrate that my child learned what is expected of him/her?
- How would my child access accelerated curriculum beyond the regular classroom?
- How will I or my child know what enrichment opportunities are available for TAG students in the school?

### Questions parents ask regarding a written Instructional Plan:

Parents ask themselves...

- How does my child's teacher communicate about the strategies used to meet my child's instructional needs?
- Have I talked directly with the teacher about particular areas of concerns? How were concerns resolved?

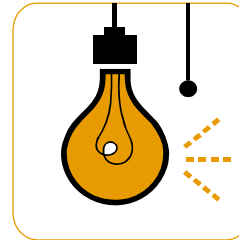
If I still have concerns, have you talked to a school administrator about these concerns?

## "We read to discover we are not alone."

### -C.S. Lewis

**You'll find it here.** Here are three sources with very different perspectives, but all endeavoring to help adults with their talented and gifted children.

Does this sound like a child you know? The seven year old who wants to learn algebra, and is quite capable, but can't remember to bring home her spelling book? The three year old who wants to know if her new desk "comes complete." "Complete?" "You know, Mom, with a computer!" The high school student, not known for his scholastic talents, who quietly sits in his classes and 'doodles' detailed technical drawings of a new truck design, a design hauntingly similar to one produced by the major auto manufacturers decades later. Then read **Hoagies' Gifted Education Page** [www.hoagiesgifted.org/](http://www.hoagiesgifted.org/)



When you want more information about high potential, giftedness, and talent development go to **National Association for Gifted Children** [www.nagc.org/](http://www.nagc.org/)

The current 5-year research plan of **the Gifted and Talented (NRC/GT)** is striving to lead us to empirical and descriptive understandings of "what works in gifted education."

[www.gifted.uconn.edu/NRCGT.html](http://www.gifted.uconn.edu/NRCGT.html)

## Parents Rights

### TAG Parent and Guardian Rights and Responsibilities

- (1) Parents are to be informed of the programs and services available to their TAG identified child.
- (2) Parents have an opportunity for input to and discussion of the programs and services their child will receive.
- (3) The parents of an identified TAG student may, at any time, request withdrawal of their child from programs and services.
- (4) Parent permission shall be obtained for any individual testing.
- (5) Parents shall be informed of their right to appeal decisions regarding identification and service and file a complaint under OAR 581-022-1940.

### MAS'UULIYADAHHA IYO XUQUUQDA WAALIDKA IYO HAGAHA IDMAN

- (1) Wargeli waa in lagu wargeliyaa barnaamijyadda iyo adeegyadda la heli karo ee TAG ee ugaadhka ah ubadkooda.
- (2) Waaldiintu waxay fursad uhaayaan in ay dhiibtaan aragtidooda islamarkaana ay kala hadlaan macalinka fasalka barnaamijyadda iyo adeegyadda uu ubadkoodu heli doono.
- (3) Waaldiinta Ardayda ku jira TADH ee ugaadhka ah ubadkooda waxa ay waqti walba codsan karaan in ubadkooda uu ka bixi karo barnaamijkaa iyo adeegyadda.
- (4) Ogolaashaha waalidka waa in la helaa wax walba oo la xidhiidha imtixaan si shakhsi ah loo qado.

### DERECHOS Y RESPONSABILIDADES DE PADRES Y APODERADOS

- (1) Los padres serán informados de los programas y servicios disponibles para sus hijos identificados TAG.
- (2) Los padres tienen una oportunidad para opinar y discutir sobre los programas y servicios que sus hijos recibirán.
- (3) Los padres de un alumno identificado TAG, podrán en cualquier momento, requerir el retiro de sus hijos de los programas y servicios.
- (4) Se obtendrá permiso del padre para cualquier examen individual..
- (5) Los padres serán informados de su derecho a apelar las decisiones concernientes a identificación y servicio y presentar una queja de acuerdo a la ley OAR 581-022-1940.

### ПРАВА И ОБЯЗАННОСТИ РОДИТЕЛЕЙ И ОПЕКУНОВ

- (1) Родителей должны проинформировать о программах и услугах, имеющихся для их ребёнка, направленного в программу TAG.
- (2) Родители имеют возможность высказать своё мнение и обсудить эти программы и услуги, которые будет получать их ребёнок.
- (3) Родители направляемого в программу TAG ребёнка имеют право в любое время отказаться от программ и услуг для своего ребёнка.
- (4) Для любого индивидуального тестирования должно быть получено разрешение родителей.
- (5) Родителей должны проинформировать об их праве на подачу апелляции на решения по поводу направления и услуг программы TAG и подачи жалобы согласно положению OAR 581-022-1940.

### 家和人的利和任长监护权责

- (1) 家知向他的接受了长们获们TAG的孩子所提供的有程和服鉴别关课务。
- (2) 家有一个机会参与和他的孩子即将就的程和得的服长们讨论们读课获务。
- (3) 接受了的学生们的家可以鉴别长们任何时候, 要求他的孩子退出程和服们课务校区将TAG。
- (4) 任何个人的将得到家的允对测试长许。
- (5) 家将他所有和服的的决定提出上以及呈交长们获们权对关鉴别务诉OAR 581-022-1940下的投诉项。

### các QUYỀN HẠN VÀ TRÁCH NHIỆM CỦA PHỤ HUYNH VÀ NGƯỜI GIÁM HỘ

- (1) Các phụ huynh của các học sinh đã được nhận định thuộc chương trình TAG sẽ được thông báo về các chương trình và các dịch vụ hiện hữu dành cho con em của họ.
- (2) Các phụ huynh học sinh có cơ hội để đóng góp ý kiến và thảo luận về các chương trình và các dịch vụ mà con em của họ sẽ được nhận.
- (3) Bất cứ lúc nào, các phụ huynh của một học sinh được nhận định là học sinh TAG cũng có thể yêu cầu đưa con em của họ ra khỏi các chương trình và các dịch vụ.
- (4) Bất cứ một khảo sát cá nhân nào cũng đều cần phải có giấy chấp thuận của phụ huynh.
- (5) Các phụ huynh phải được thông báo về quyền của họ trong việc kháng cáo các quyết định nhận định và dịch vụ và về việc viết đơn khiếu nại theo điều luật OAR 581-022-1940.

## ACCESS A Sabin Elementary School

### An Alternative Program for Talented and Gifted Students Alternative Strategies for Student Excellence

Program curriculum covers the standards-based requirements of the Oregon Department of Education and Portland Public Schools to meet the needs of students who have exceeded all or most benchmarks.

Some students may need individual tailoring to meet specific needs. Other students may need extra assistance with organization and time management. Teachers are familiar with the range of student needs associated with gifted populations and endeavor to make accommodations.

ACCESS provides enrichment in classrooms throughout the day and through specific activities, such as participation in the National Geographic Bee, Scripps Spelling Bee, American Math Competition, Math Counts, Science Bowl, Science Fair, and Chess for Success.

**Applications are accepted at any time during the school year, space permitting. District Alternative programs do not go through School Choice/Lottery system. [www.accessalt.pps.k12.or.us](http://www.accessalt.pps.k12.or.us)**

- **Grades 1-8 at Sabin Elementary School – 4013 NE 18th Ave**  
For more information, contact Mark Sandilands at 503-916-6482
- **Grades 9-12 at Grant High School – 2245 NE 36th Ave**  
For more information, contact Brian Chatard at 503-916-5160

**Chess Club** [www.chessforsuccess.org](http://www.chessforsuccess.org)

**Math Counts** [www.mathcounts.org](http://www.mathcounts.org) National math competition program for students in Gr 6-8;

**Multnomah County Academic All-Stars**  
[www.academicallstars.org/Students.php](http://www.academicallstars.org/Students.php)

Cash Scholarships for students in Gr 9-12 First applications due November

**National Geographic Bee** [www.nationalgeographic.com](http://www.nationalgeographic.com)  
Competitions held in Bend, Corvallis, La Grande, Eugene and Monmouth For students in Gr 4-8.

**Oregon Health & Sciences University Gr 9-11 OHSU**  
Partnership for Scientific Inquiry <http://portland-psi.wikispaces.com/>

**Reed College Outreach** [www.reed.edu](http://www.reed.edu) - Barbara Amen, 503 777 7259  
Biology classes for elementary students; Math Fest; College Classes for HS students; Speakers Bureau; Theatre Tickets

**Saturday Academy** [www.saturdayacademy.org](http://www.saturdayacademy.org)  
Classes offered in the community by professionals - Gr 3-12; Apprenticeships in Science, Math, and Engineering; Paid Summer Internship for students in Gr 9-11.

**Young Musicians and Artists** [www.ymainc.org](http://www.ymainc.org)



**Office of Talented & Gifted**  
501 N. Dixon  
Portland, OR 97227

**Phone**  
(503) 916-3358  
**Fax**  
(503) 916-3296

**Pat Thompson:**  
TAG Administrator  
**Andrea Atherton:**  
Administrative Assistant  
**Jere Fitterman:**  
TAG Specialist, teacher

*"The foundation of every Nation is the education of its youth."*  
Diogenes

#### We're on the Web!

See us at:

[tag.pps.k12.or.us](http://tag.pps.k12.or.us)



Page click on Community Resources for links to Gifted Programs, Conferences, Student Competitions, Distance Learning and Independent Study options

Visit our portaportal page @ [www.portaportal.com](http://www.portaportal.com)  
Sign is as a guest of PPSTAG for links to all kinds of resources.

PORTLAND PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
TAG OFFICE  
501 N. DIXON  
PORTLAND, OR 97227



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