Any gifted child can potentially get in real trouble because of the way they are handled.”
~Itzhak Perlman (Israeli-born violinist, conductor, instructor of master classes and one of the preeminent violinists of the 20th and early-21st centuries.)

DEADLINES & UPDATES

GIFTED REFERRAL TRACKING LOG

The Gifted Referral Tracking Log from STISETS is due no later than October 19, 2012. Tracking log dates that must be manually entered are:

Start Date: October 2, 2011
End Date: October 1, 2012

Before coordinators submit this report through the State Report Desktop of STISETS, review your report for accuracy. If data is missing, then forms have not been completed accurately.

ENRICHMENT CHILD COUNT

The Enrichment Child Count is due no later than October 19, 2012. This is your October 1 snapshot of children who have been identified and are being served through the Enrichment Model for gifted services.

AAGC & STI-PD

We have had many questions regarding STI-PD and not being able to access the AAGC conference. If you have found the conference in STI-PD, it is because a few school systems entered it for their teachers. It was not entered at the state level. To add the 2012 AAGC conference to your STI-PD, just go to “My History” and scroll to the bottom of the page. Click on “submit new training history item for approval.” Then complete the following:

- Type of Training
- Training Date
- Training Name
- Notes (add a description of this conference and list sessions you had attended)
- Hours

Give your administrator your Certificates of Attendance as evidence of attending the conference.

Verification of attendance at the Gifted regional trainings will be completed within the next couple of weeks.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

October 20, 2012: 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.
Flying WILD Leadership Training

The National Wild Turkey Federation, Birmingham Audubon Society, and Bass Pro Shops of Leeds are co-sponsoring this teacher workshop. Training will be five hours in length and will introduce you to new Flying WILD materials and activities. Participants will receive the program guide, Flying WILD: An Educator’s Guide to Celebrating Birds, as well as an introduction to resources that will ensure your Flying WILD program is a success. Developed by the national office of the award winning Project WILD environmental education program, Flying WILD introduces students to bird conservation through classroom activities and school bird festivals. It also supports educators by providing interdisciplinary, standards-based opportunities to engage students in real-world learning. For more information on Flying WILD, check out the Web site at www.flyingwild.org. The only cost is lunch at the Bass Pro Shop restaurant. If you have questions, contact Helena Uber-Wamble at educationdirector@birminghamaudubon.org or (205) 714-8228. To register, send an email to educationdirector@birminghamaudubon.org with your name, contact information, and affiliation.
October 25, 2012: 5–8 p.m. (CT)

2012—Myths, Tall Tales, and Urban Legends: Facts behind the Fed

Sponsored by the Birmingham Branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta at the Birmingham Branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta, Liberty Parkway, Birmingham, AL 35242

This annual evening special event for middle and high school educators provides a chance to explore current economic and financial topics with a senior Fed economist. The workshop includes the following topics:

- The historical origins of misconceptions and controversy about the central bank
- A review of common current myths and misunderstandings about the Fed and its role in the economy
- Myths and realities about what the Fed did during and after the financial crisis

For more information about the Bank's research economists, go to the Atlanta Fed Website. The event includes a reception, dinner, and presentation. Registration is open and available on a first-come, first-served basis. Seating is limited. For more information, please contact Julie Kornegay at julie.l.kornegay@atl.frb.org or by phone at 205-968-6728.

http://www.frbatlanta.org/forms/register_121025_brm.cfm

TEACHER TRAVEL: NOAA TEACHER AT SEA PROGRAM

http://teacheratsea.noaa.gov/

The mission of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s (NOAA) Teacher at Sea program is to give teachers a clearer insight into our ocean planet, a greater understanding of maritime work and studies, and to increase their level of environmental literacy by fostering an interdisciplinary research experience. The program provides a unique environment for learning and teaching by sending kindergarten through college-level teachers to sea aboard NOAA research and survey ships to work under the tutelage of scientists and crew. Then, armed with new understanding and experience, teachers bring this knowledge back to their classrooms. Applications are accepted from currently employed, full-time educators in these categories:

- K-12 teachers and administrators;
- Community college, college, and university teachers;
- Museum and aquaria educators; and
- Adult education teachers.

NOAA cannot accept applications from part-time, substitute, or pre-service teachers. Apply by 5 p.m. ET October 31, 2012. A copy of the application may be downloaded at http://teacheratsea.noaa.gov/about/how_to_apply.html

February 2, 2013: 8:30 a.m. – 1:15 p.m.

TN Valley Aerospace Education Workshop

The Tennessee Valley Chapter of the Air Force Association would like to invite gifted specialists in grades K-6 to a unique workshop to share free educational products and programs to enrich and supplement ANY classroom. Location is tentatively set for the Huntsville Space and Rocket Center. What’s included with attendance:

A complimentary Aerospace Education Membership with the Civil Air Patrol (CAP) that involves the following FREE benefits:

- Over 25 K-12 educational products aligned with national academic standards that promote science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) subjects and careers to include rocketry, robotics, satellites, aircraft, weather, and much more
- Opportunity to fly in CAP airplane at your local airport
- Opportunity to apply for classroom grants and awards
- Opportunity to participate in the K-6 Aerospace Connections in Education (ACE) Program that involves interdisciplinary academics, character education and physical fitness lessons and class sets of educational manipulatives and ACE t-shirts and certificates of completion
- Classroom demonstrations of ACE program lessons
- Introduction to the Air Force Association and the organization’s contributions to schools and the community
- Lunch and opportunity to network with other area K-6 teachers

Candidate teachers must be registered with CAP and ACE by October 20

For more information, please contact Jennifer Kennedy at Jennifer.Kennedy@acs-k12.org by October 15.
GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

SEEA Environmental Education Grants

The Southeast Environmental Education Alliance (SEEA) would like to invite you to submit a proposal for their 2012 grants. These grants are made possible through a regional grant to SEEA provided by EPA.

WHAT: Grants of up to $5,000 for environmental education projects
WHEN: Deadline is November 1, 2012
HOW: Click HERE to visit http://www.eeaa.us and download the Request for Proposals. Click HERE to download the application.

CONTESTS & OTHER REAL-WORLD AUDIENCES

GREEN RIBBON SCHOOLS AWARD
http://alex.state.al.us/grs.html

Many gifted specialists use environmental education curriculum in their pull-out programs. The U.S. Department of Education developed this award in 2012 to recognize schools taking a comprehensive approach to greening their school, which incorporates environmental learning with improving environmental and health impacts. Two Alabama schools, Munford Elementary School and Winterboro High School, were awarded the 2012 Green Ribbon Schools Award in April of 2012. Becoming a U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon School is a two-step process. The first step is to complete and submit the application form to the ALSDE no later than December 21, 2012. The Alabama Green Ribbon Schools Advisory Committee will review the applications to select up to three public schools and one private school with exemplary green schools practices. The second step of the process requires the ALSDE nomination packets with the selected applications be reviewed by the U.S. Department of Education. Selection will be based on documentation of the applicant's high achievement in the three Pillars:

Pillar I: Reduce environmental impact and costs.
Pillar II: Improve the health and wellness of students and staff.
Pillar III: Provide effective environmental and sustainability education, incorporating STEM, civic skills, and green career pathways.

For more information or an application, click here.

FIRST FREESOM STUDENT COMPETITION 2012/2013
http://www.firstfreedom.org/

The George Washington Institute for Religious Freedom and the Richard S. Reynolds Foundation is co-sponsoring the First Freedom Student Competition. This is a first-semester national essay and video contest. It offers high-school students an opportunity to compete for $2,500 awards as they examine the history and current-day relevance of religious freedom, and then, by written essay or video production, present their evaluation. The competition is open to students in the United States and U.S. territories, and to American schools and American home-schooled students worldwide. Students in Grades 9-12 at all levels of academic placement are invited to participate.

This year’s topic introduces students to George Washington’s famous Letter to the Hebrew Congregation of Newport, Rhode Island of 1790, where he addresses a new standard for religious freedom and religious equality for citizens of the young nation. Students will identify basic principles of religious liberty espoused in this primary document and will research and assess how well the United States has lived up to Washington’s ideals.

The online student registration deadline is Monday, November 12, 2012. The postmark deadline for mailing the essay or video with its accompanying entry materials is Monday, November 26, 2012. Winners will be announced on Thomas Jefferson’s birthday, April 13, 2013.

eCYBERMISSION

Take the science fair out of the auditorium and into cyberspace. eCYBERMISSION is a web-based Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics competition for 6th, 7th, 8th and 9th grade teams. Your team will propose a solution to a real problem in your community and compete for State, Regional and National Awards. eCYBERMISSION challenges you to explore how Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics work in your world. More information and links to registration at
NOETIC LEARNING MATH FOR ELEMENTARY

http://www.noetic-learning.com/mathcontest

“The Noetic Learning Math Contest is a biannual problem-solving contest for elementary students (grades 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6). The contest is in its 4th year and it is quickly gaining popularity in elementary schools across the country. It’s convenient for you to set up and it is fun for your students.”

- **Fall Contest Date: November 1, 2012**
  - Make up dates: November 2 - 15, 2012
  - Registration Deadline: October 19, 2012
- **Spring Contest Date: April 4, 2013**
  - Make up dates: April 5 - 18, 2013
  - Registration Deadline: March 22, 2012
- Register at http://www.noetic-learning.com/mathcontest
- Administer the test between November 1 to November 15 at your own school
- Grade the test papers and report the scores
- We announce the winners and send you the medals

If you have any questions, e-mail noetic.learning@gmail.com

RESOURCES

**Crash Course YouTube Channel**

http://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLBDA2E52FB1EF80C9

These short (12-15 minutes) videos bring you a quick and fun way to learn or review ancient to modern history. John Green teaches you world history and Hank Green teaches you biology. As always with any Internet links, preview these videos before showing to students. Some content may not be appropriate for younger students.

**Backpack TV**

http://www.backpack.tv/

Here’s a resource to share with classroom teachers. “At Backpack TV, you can quickly find education videos to help you with math, science, and other academic subjects. Backpack.tv was founded by Joe Wagner with the help of many dedicated and bright high school and college students. The Backpack TV team has created a highly curated library of education videos organized by academic subject and detailed topic. Many of the videos are linked to topics from popular textbooks, a real bonus for finding just the right video. They have partnered with excellent teachers and are always on the lookout for more outstanding teachers to enhance the growing library.” These videos can be used in general education classrooms and gifted pull-out programs.

**School Gardens**

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N14bTyHH-rA&feature=plcp

Constance Carter, head of the Science Reference Section at the Library of Congress, created this short video. She describes the history of the school gardens in America and offers reasons why school gardens are making a comeback.

**AAGC Parent Chapters**

http://www.alabamagifted.org

AAGC invites local teachers to join and invite parents to join the new Greater Jefferson/Shelby Counties Parent and Teachers of the Gifted advocacy group. For more information please go to www.alabamagifted.org. If you have a group of parents that want to form a parent chapter group, please go to http://www.alabamagifted.org/?page_id=197 for more information.
FIELD EXPERIENCES

The purpose of the field study experience is to enhance and enrich the content and skills from units of study. The trip becomes an embedded activity within the concept-based curriculum unit. This month’s featured trip is Hawaii. Now we can all afford to visit not just the big island but six of them at http://satftp.soest.hawaii.edu/space/hawaii/virtual.field.trips.html. This trip includes photos, maps, and descriptions.

As with any field trip experience, what are the “before, during, and after” experiences connected to this experience to further the studies of the concept-based curriculum? How does this experience help students answer Essential Questions and/or Scaffolded Questions and discover Essential Understandings?

CONCEPT-BASED CURRICULUM
EU: Unequal power relationships have led to historical injustices, stereotyping, prejudice, racism, and genocide of indigenous people.

EQ: How have unequal power relationships led to historical injustices, stereotyping, prejudice, racism, and genocide of indigenous people?

SQ: What is a relationship?
SQ: What relationships do you have?
SQ: How can businesses have relationships?
SQ: How can the government have relationships?
SQ: What are power relationships?
SQ: Do you have any power relationships?
SQ: Can you provide an example of an unequal power relationship?

SQ: Explain the following terms and provide historical and current examples:

- Injustice
- Stereotyping
- Prejudice
- Racism
- Genocide

SQ: Who are indigenous people?
SQ: Where are indigenous people today?
SQ: Why are people stereotyped?
SQ: Why is there racism and prejudice?
SQ: Have you ever observed or engaged in these practices?
SQ: Have you ever been a recipient of one of these practices?
SQ: How can we stop racist and prejudicial practices?
SQ: In what unequal power relationships have indigenous people been involved?
SQ: How have unequal power relationships led to historical injustices of indigenous people?
SQ: How have unequal power relationships led to stereotyping of indigenous people?
SQ: How have unequal power relationships led to prejudice of indigenous people?
SQ: How have unequal power relationships led to racism of indigenous people?
SQ: How have unequal power relationships led to genocide of indigenous people?
SQ: Why do you think these relationships happen?
SQ: Do these unequal power relationships continue today?