

Gifted Child Committee Report (August 2006):

Elizabeth Enders, Co-Chair, eaenders@verizon.net
(other co-chair position currently vacant)

One goal of our committee is to have a GT Liaison for every school; to work with staff to help improve parent outreach on GT issues, to help advocate for accelerated and enriched instruction at their local schools for all students who have the potential to achieve at a high level, and to share information with other schools to help strengthen local programs. If your school does not have a GT Liaison, we encourage you to have at least one PTA member sign up for our listserv to relay messages (see below for sign-up information).

We are working with the staff of the Office of Accelerated and Enriched Instruction to plan the annual training for GT Liaisons.

In addition, over the past few months we have formed a group to plan an open meeting in the fall on improving the language arts curriculum, continued to recruit more GT liaisons and collect contact information, and continued to provide information and connections on the email list. We have met with AEI staff to discuss issues related to the GT policy and its implementation; the global screening process/identification with the GT label being assigned based on the level of service a student is receiving; efforts to promote consistency in implementation of GT services through improved accountability; the language arts curriculum, and the magnet programs. Our committee has researched best practices in ability grouping, actual practices in local schools, and practices at the Center/Magnet programs that could be used in local school GT programs. Lastly, we have been compiling contact information for MCPS employees with input into the GT program to facilitate communication between stakeholders and MCPS.

To join our listserv, send an email to:

GTliaisons-subscribe@yahoogroups.com, or contact Christy Lyons at christylyons@verizon.net.