

## **Gifted Child Committee**

Our committee has just had its November meeting. On the agenda was a presentation by Jim Flaikas and Sofie Kowun of MCPS on the K-12 writing curriculum. Approximately 40 people were in attendance. We have 3 additional meetings scheduled for this school year:

**January 24, 2008 - Beyond the GT Label: How Teachers Identify Students Who Need Above Grade Level Instruction in Reading** - How do teachers determine a students' need for above grade level programming? What assessments are used in reading? What other indicators do teachers use? What is MAP-R? What do the assessment scores mean? Time 7:30 – 9:00PM Location Walter Johnson HS Auditorium

**February 24, 2008 – Carolyn K Webmaster of Hoagiesgifted.org will speak of the topic of Underachievement: Enforced, Learned and Twice Exceptional** Enforced, learned, or twice exceptional: underachievement can have many causes, and a variety of solutions. Come learn about the differences, and similarities, and many of the possible solutions, to underachievement. The first step to resolving underachievement is to figure out what's causing the underachievement - then we can begin to resolve it! Time: 7:30 – 9:00pm Location: Carver Auditorium

**April 24 2008 - Differentiating Instruction: Best Practices in Grouping Strategies & Teacher Preparation** - What does differentiated instruction look like in Reading, Science and Social Studies at each school level? What are grouping strategies MCPS uses in ES and MS? What are the pros and cons of each? Does research support a particular strategy for gifted students? What are some practical strategies teachers can use for students who learn at different rates or bring prior knowledge to the classroom? How are teachers prepared/trained by MCPS to address the needs of gifted students and advanced learners? Is any training required? Does MCPS maintain information on what training each teacher has received? Time: 7:30 – 9:00pm Location: Walter Johnson HS Auditorium.

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