

Teacher to Teacher

Ohio Association for Gifted Children

Teacher Division Newsletter

Fall 2009

The Teacher Division Welcomes you to OAGC Fall Conference

As Teacher Division Chair, I welcome you to OAGC Fall Conference. The mission of the Teacher Division of Ohio Association for Gifted Children is “to inspire and equip educators committed to the appropriate education of gifted children.” To that end, this will be the first of a series of newsletters designed as a step toward our ultimate goal of creating a bank of high level, high quality materials that will assist classroom teachers as they strive to raise academic rigor for gifted children in all of Ohio’s classrooms. We envision that, eventually, these resources and others will be available to Division members on the OAGC Teacher Division website, giving members easy access to quality resources for classroom use.

I hope you enjoy the Fall Conference. May you leave inspired and equipped to educate Ohio’s gifted children!

Karen Cook

Meet Elected Teacher Division officers:

Chair: **Karen Cook** karen.cook@swcs.us

Chair Elect: **Tracy Silvestro** tsilvestro@bera.k12.oh.us

Secretary: **Cheri Turner** cheri.turner@swcs.us

Teacher Division Council consists of the elected officers listed above in addition to regional representatives from each of OAGC’s twelve regions, representatives from Teacher Division affiliates, and the past chair.

We welcome new members who share our enthusiasm for educating gifted children. Currently we have a number of regions who need a representative. If you would like to be involved with the important work of the OAGC Teacher Division, please check at the Conference information desk, ask any Teacher Division member, or contact me at karen.cook@swcs.us.

INVITATION: **TD Council** will be meeting at the Hilton Easton on Sunday, October 11 at 7:00. Please join us at that time for a short fifteen minute ‘Meet and Greet’ session before the formal, closed-session.

~~You are also invited to attend **Teacher Division New Teacher Session** on
Monday, October 12~~

WANTED: Quality Ohio Standards-Based Pretests
All Grade Levels
All Subjects

Quality pretests are an invaluable necessity for teachers. At the OAGC Teacher Division website of teacher resources, we would like to offer our members the best and latest standards-based pretests. To do this we need your help. If you have knowledge of locally created pre-tests or have created your own materials, please share them with your OAGC colleagues via the website. We will certainly accept them for review for publication on our website, of course with credit to the authors.

If you have had success with published assessments we would like to recommend them to our members. Please let us know what has worked for you. We will honor copyright laws, but an annotated list would be valuable for our colleagues.

Off the Shelf...

Resources to help any teacher...

Thinking Skills Resource Book by Lorene Reid. Creative Learning Press, Inc
ISBN 0-936386-58-4

www.creativelearningpress.com On sale now for \$14.41! What a deal!

You don't have to be a new teacher to use and love this book! It is a great reference for any teacher. Thinking Skills Resource Book defines many creative and critical thinking skills and is formatted with a very informative, helpful structure: definition, objective, information to help teach, independent practice items and examples that demonstrate how to use the skill across disciplines. Check it out online!

A Beginner's Guide to the Socratic Seminar by Jerry Chris, Ed.D Royal Fireworks Press ISBN 978-0-89824-454-0 www.rfwp.com

Shocking outbursts from congressmen, entertainers, citizens at town meetings all point toward a low point in public discourse in the United States. It is time to train our children in a more civil approach to intelligent conversation. Jerry Chris' text on Socratic Seminars is a great beginning for guiding our children into leaders and from antagonistic adversaries to wise questioners who promote thinking to conduct discourse. This text includes examples of two seminars that students can role-play to experience a seminar.

Fellow gifted educators: *Talk back to the Teacher*

This newsletter is just a sample of our plans to equip OAGC Teacher Division members with ideas and materials to educate Ohio's gifted children. The next issue will be delivered via email to Teacher Division members in early January with many more resources and ideas.

We welcome your comments, suggestions, and contributions. Please send to:

Talk Back to the Teacher
teachbeachnc@sbcglobal.net
karen.cook@swcs.us