

# Enrich

WENATCHEE  
SCHOOL  
DISTRICT

## Wenatchee School District's Schoolwide Enrichment Program Mission Statement:

To find and nurture talent in students by providing and supporting opportunities for them to pursue their interests at an appropriate pace and level of complexity, and regular opportunities to work with students of similar abilities.



## Fall 2011 Enrichment Newsletter

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### State gifted conference comes to Wenatchee this October 28, 29

This year's WAETAG conference has something for everyone: parents, administrators, and teachers.

WAETAG stands for Washington Association of Educators of the Talented and Gifted. It takes a village to raise a child, as the old saying goes, and we all need to be at the ready to nurture all children, even those that are academically advanced.

The conference will be held at the Wenatchee Convention Center. The last time the state conference came to Wenatchee was eight years ago, so now is the perfect time to save on gas and a hotel and take advantage of this exciting opportunity.

Friday is the **Administrator's Workshop**, 9:00-3:30. This strand is aimed at bringing principals and assistant principals up to speed on the changing world of gifted ed. In fact, beginning September 1, 2011, gifted ed is now a legal requirement for all schools as part of a basic education for those needing it. This is a game-changer, and administrators will want to learn about the new law and how to be in compliance.

Friday evening is the reception (6:00, including a performance by our WHS Mariachi group) and **keynote** speech (7:00) from Karen Rogers, Ph.D. Dr. Rogers is a highly respected expert in gifted education, both nationally and internationally. In addition to research and publication, she has the perspectives of a former elementary classroom teacher, a gifted program coordinator, and the mother of three gifted children.

Dr. Rogers authored the OMNIBUS curriculum, co-developed a television series on the nature of giftedness, served on the National Association for Gifted Children board, is on the editorial board for *Gifted Child Quarterly*, and is the author of an important book. *Re-forming Gifted Education: How Parents and Teachers Can Match the Program to the Child* is a very important source in the field.

Saturday morning kicks off with a continental breakfast, and then breakout **sessions for parents, elementary teachers, and secondary teachers**, as well as more keynote sessions with Dr. Rogers.

Please check out [www.waetag.net](http://www.waetag.net) for more WAETAG Conference information and to register. It takes a village, and we want the Wenatchee Valley village to be in the know as to how to nurture *all* kids!

### Example session topics for WAETAG conference:



# 2011

- \*Engaging hearts and minds
- \*Advocating for gifted kids
- \*Tools for depth and complexity
- \*Blending logical and creative thinking
- \*Building a website for free
- \*Differentiated literacy units for any age
- \*Independent projects

- \*Who are the gifted?
- \*Intensities and OverExcitabilities
- \*Middle school gifted programs
- \*Gifted ed = basic ed. Now what?
- \*Specialty endorsement in gifted ed
- \*Washington Green Schools
- \*Getting and keeping kids engaged

| Enrichment & other<br><b>Calendar,<br/>           Fall 2011</b> | <b>October</b>  | <b>November</b>   | <b>December</b>   |
|---|---|---|---|
| <b>DID YOU KNOW?</b><br>_____>>>                                | <p><b>11</b><br/>           4TH AND 5TH GRADE<br/>           ENRICHMENT CURRICULUM<br/>           NIGHT<br/>           7:00-8:00 pm<br/>           Lewis &amp; Clark multipurpose rm</p> <p><b>17-21</b><br/>           CONFERENCE WEEK<br/>           Parents and/or teachers may<br/>           request their enrichment<br/>           specialist try to attend their<br/>           child's conference if possible</p> <p><b>28-29</b><br/>           WAETAG CONFERENCE<br/>           Downtown Wenatchee<br/>           See <a href="http://www.waetag.net">www.waetag.net</a> for<br/>           information and to register</p> <p>2011 WHS Advanced<br/>           Placement scores exceeded<br/>           the global average by<br/>           12%! _____&gt;&gt;&gt;</p> | <p><b>1</b><br/>           Absolute DEADLINE for WHS<br/>           Academic Challenge<br/>           Verification Forms to be<br/>           submitted (re: last year) for<br/>           classes of 2012 and 2013</p> <p><b>11</b><br/>           VETERANS DAY<br/>           No school</p> <p><b>23-25</b><br/>           EARLY DISMISSAL on 23rd<br/>           THANKSGIVING VACATION<br/>           on 24th and 25th</p> <p><u>Congrats</u> to those<br/>           students and their AP<br/>           teachers!</p> | <p><b>17</b><br/>           WINTER VACATION begins</p> <p><b>19</b><br/>           FAMILY OUTING IDEA:<br/>           "If You Give a Moose a<br/>           Muffin" play at PAC, 2:00 and<br/>           6:00 pm, \$15 or \$18</p> <p>*If you do holiday gift giving,<br/>           consider giving some books or<br/>           educational games and toys.</p> <p>*School resumes Tues., Jan. 3.</p> |



**Some excerpts from *Removing the Mask: Giftedness in Poverty* by Ruby Payne**

"Most gifted students will experience some predictable problems as a gifted learner. These include:

- \*feeling different
- \*disappointing self (perfectionism)
- \*having a need to win
- \*dealing with stress
- \*having to make choices
- \*being bored
- \*feeling worried about the future of self and others.

For gifted students from poverty, the concerns are also generally the following:

- \*having to give up friends
- \*having parents who don't understand
- \*wanting to achieve but not having the necessary resources within the home
- \*feeling unaccepted, both from other gifted kids and from their economic peers
- \*being unaware of the hidden rules

"The equitable treatment of students from poverty is essential if these students as adults are to have equal economic opportunities."

"To achieve equity for gifted students from poverty, a program must be able to deliver" highly enriched curricula, visual and verbal components, direct teaching of abstract processes and mental models, mentors who share common interests and talents, meaningful relationships with adults and academic peers. (p. 174-5)

"No one can guarantee that these students will be successful when they are identified and served appropriately. Breaking the cycle of poverty is no small feat. Education, however, is a key component in this endeavor. Ultimately the student must choose, but without opportunity the student has no choice!"

"The opportunity for equity for gifted students lies with educators who have the courage and commitment to see beyond the mask of poverty. Behind the mask are myriad gifts to be developed. If those gifts are developed appropriately, the student will be empowered to remove the mask." (p. 264-5)

"All we can do during our lives is to leave a trace. We can leave it on a piece of paper, or on the ground, or in the hearts and minds of others." ~Elie Wiesel