



This newsletter is to convey information and opportunities about Gifted and Talented services. For questions about elementary services, please contact [Lindsay Arnett](#). For questions about middle/high services, please contact [Kathy Carver](#).

Visit Our Website

Middle-High GT Spotlight Ja'Kiyah Rutledge

Ja'Kiyah Rutledge's eyes lit up when asked about ***West Side Story***. Until she performed last fall, she said she had no idea how passionate she would become about performing. Since then, Ja'Kiyah was able to attend the Summer Arts Academy and perform in ***Annie, Jr.***, as well. She credits her love for theatre to Ms. Tracy Bean, Hopkins County Central's Choir Director and Head of Fine Arts Activities.

Ja'Kiyah's favorite memory of the musical production was not in front of an audience, it was senior night. This night allowed the cast to celebrate by letting the seniors offer advice and wisdom. Her smile was contagious as she talked about how the cast bonded that night. Ja'Kiyah realized during that moment that she had discovered what she wanted to do in life.

When giving advice on working with gifted students, she is quick to bring up the role of the teacher. She said, "I love a teacher who is passionate about their subject area, willing to work with students, uses a variety of methods in the classroom, and gets to the bottom of trouble when it arises." Ja'Kiyah pointed out Ms. Bean as one who always sets that example.

Gifted in dance, Ja'Kiyah is very humble when discussing her talent. Although she has never taken formal dance lessons, she works on her skills every chance she gets and



cites the internet as inspiration. Emma Harrison refers to Ja'Kiyah as, "the one who will be on Broadway someday." That is high praise for Ja'Kiyah, who favors the dance style of hip-hop and dancers, *Les Twins*.

She has some advice for students interested in visual and performing arts and that is to work hard. Whether you play an instrument, dance, act, or sing, you have to practice on your own. This rising star has aspirations to attend college at [The Juilliard School](#) in New York City. Until then, she is hard at work on the fall production of *Newsies*.

Ja'Kiyah is in the 10th grade at Hopkins County Central High School. She is the daughter of Kelcey Rutledge, Sr.



Elementary GT Spotlight Keeley Peyton

Keeley Peyton is an elementary GT student at West Hopkins School in the areas of Creativity and Leadership. Keeley's recent selection as the 5th grade student ambassador at WHS came as no surprise. She will take part in the 2018-2019 Junior Leadership Academy for Hopkins County Schools. Keeley, active in the 4-H program at WHS, served as reporter last year where she wrote monthly reports about the school's 4-H activities and events.

This summer she also took home 1st and 2nd place awards for the 4-H art and plant competitions at the Hopkins County Fair. She enjoys crafting and used her creativity to make homemade gifts for everyone in her family for Christmas last year. Keeley is a service oriented young lady. After achieving all her required community service hours for Beta Club last year, she asked her family to go on a mission trip to Oklahoma. Keeley spent her spring break volunteering on a reservation. She also plays on a recreational soccer team in Nortonville.

Keeley is the 10-year-old daughter of Terry and Misty Peyton.



Kentucky Poppy Project

The Kentucky Poppy Project is working hard to organize an amazing display of remembrance for the Kentucky WWI Centennial Commemoration at the state capital. Most recently, the poppies were displayed at the 2018 Kentucky State Fair in Louisville.

As the official website states, the Kentucky Poppy Project was inspired by the 5000 Poppy Project from Australia. The goal is to collect handmade poppies until the summer of 2019 to close out the commemoration with the laying of thousands of poppies on the steps of the Capitol Building in Frankfort, KY.

Hopkins County Schools partnered with this project last school year where students, grade K-8, created approximately 1,700 poppies. GT students led the effort as one of their leadership projects. This hard work culminated with an assembly at Southside Elementary featuring Heather French Henry, Deputy Commissioner of the Kentucky Department of Veteran Affairs and former Miss America. She excitedly praised our students for their donation and offered a brief history lesson on Kentucky's involvement in WWI.

The project continues this school year with a second and final donation from our students. Expect more information about poppy donations and begin to prepare your GT students for poppy

creation!

Questions? Contact:

kathy.carver@hopkins.kyschools.us or lindsay.arnett@hopkins.kyschools.us

Deadline: Sunday, November 11, 2018 (Veterans Day)

For more information, [visit the Kentucky Poppy Project website](#)

Have an Interesting Hobby or Expertise You Can Share?!

We need you to come up with a challenging, yet fun, course to teach at Madisonville Community College for two Saturdays, January 12 and 19, 2019. The subject or grade level you currently teach does not have an impact on the course you design. If you have an interesting outside **hobby, expertise, or talent**, we want to know about it!

You will even **GET PAID!**

We refer to them as **SUPER SATURDAYS**. Why? Because our gifted students get to spend about 6 hours learning something at a fast pace with their gifted peers in grades 2-8.

But it doesn't work well unless we have some super teachers! Apply to teach this high-level, fast-paced group. For more information, read through the application link below or contact [Lindsay Arnett](#) or [Kathy Carver](#).



[Super Saturdays Instructor Application](#)



We asked our GT Elementary Students to "Dream Out Loud"

For the 6th year in Hopkins County, Primary Talent Pool and Gifted and Talented students had the opportunity to work on the creative "Dream Out Loud Challenge" for a chance to win a \$1,000 college savings account and \$500 for their school.

Students submitted an original drawing, video, essay, or poem answering the question, "How will I change the world after I go to college?"

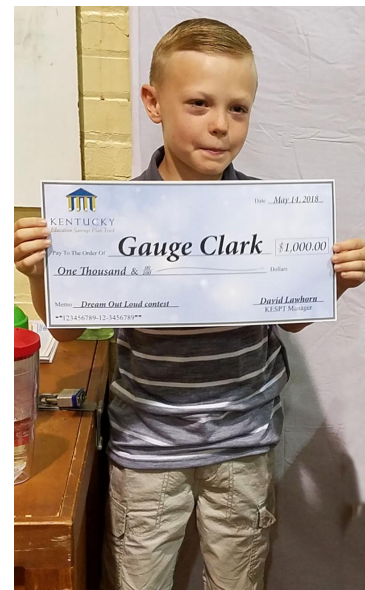
Gauge Clark, 3rd Grader at Hanson Elementary School, won the top prize! He received a \$1,000 college savings account. Hanson received \$500, as well.

Congrats to Gauge on his success!

The Dream Out Loud Challenge is sponsored by the Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority (KHEAA) and the Kentucky Education Savings Plan Trust (KESPT). For more information please visit KYSaves.com/DreamOutLoud.

Encourage your Elementary GT students to enter the contest next year! What a wonderful service opportunity.

2018 Dream Out Loud Challenge Winners



The Differentiator

Need Help Differentiating?

The **Differentiator** is an online tool that helps you create objectives for gifted learners. The Differentiator is based on Bloom's Taxonomy, Kaplan and Gould's Depth and Complexity, and

David Chung's product menu. Using this web based tool allows you to vary instruction and keep ideas fresh to challenge your bright kiddos.

[Design Instruction Using The Differentiator](#)

Freebies

[From the Gifted Guru](#)



Do's and Don'ts of Teaching Gifted Students in a Mixed Ability Classroom.



<-----Do's----->

- Look for ways to let GT students use their "gifts" (examples: higher level reading books, artistic integration, etc.)
- Talk with GT students one-on-one about your expectations, their learning, etc. Include them in the planning process
- Give praise and feedback
- Group with other GT students when possible
- Offer leadership opportunities
- Alternate assignment/product - Let students have a choice in what they do for a product (for example offer student choice from a [product list](#))
- Change assignments to make more challenging or interesting.
- Offer any competitions available (Academic Team, Future Problem Solving Team, Robotics, BETA Club, FBLA, FFA, etc.)
- Challenge them to dig deeper and go further

<-----Don'ts----->

- Let them serve as tutors or class assistants (nor document as a service)
- Give them more work (extra problems, extra busy work, book reports)
- Assume all gifted students are the same and all strategies work for all
- Assume that gifted students grow academically, review their assessments and offer your help
- Leave them alone or assume they don't need you because of their giftedness

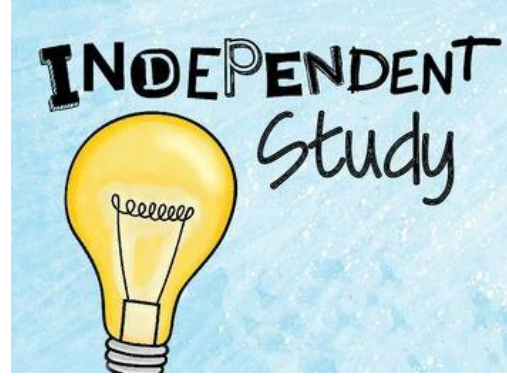
[Learn more about Gifted and Talented Education on our website](#)

Gifted Students Finishing Early?

Independent study or self-directed learning can be an appropriate service option for gifted students with structure and supervision.

Having too much downtime in class can be a missed opportunity for student growth or may invite misbehavior.

Read over the Independent Study Contract and decide if this strategy could be used to engage high-level thinkers. (See link below)



Don't forget to document as a service!

[Independent Study Contract](#)

<i>School</i>	<i>GT Coordinator</i>
Earlington	Scott Moore
Grapevine	Susan Brown
Hanson	Jennie Knight- PTP, Dawn Moore- GT
Jesse Stuart	Megan Durbin
Pride	Sarah Neathery
Southside	Mauretta Holmes
West Broadway	Laura Marks
West Hopkins	Jenny Long
Browning Springs	Andrea King
James Madison	Juli Wolfe
South Hopkins	Ginger Blakeley
Hopkins Central	Mike Murrah
Madisonville North	Amy Clark

Hopkins County Schools | [Gifted and Talented District Website](#)

STAY CONNECTED:

