



FALL 2017 NEWSLETTER

Gifted Support Center

Fall 2017 Newsletter

September 25, 2017

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GSC HAPPENINGS

by Ann Smith

I hope you all had a lovely summer and are settling into the new school year. We have been busy preparing for our new programs and services for the fall, and I want to bring you up to date on GSC happenings.

Testing Season is upon us:

We are getting back-in-the-saddle and ready for IQ testing season for private school admissions. Our same wonderful psychologists will be continuing with us this fall; schedules are set, and parents ahead-of-the-game have started confirming appointments. We will again be a preferred provider to Harker, Nueva, and Synapse for their applicants.

Additional testing services:

Because of the generous donation from a GSC family, we will begin expanding our assessment services by adding WIAT achievement testing to help families navigate appropriate academic placement for their children. Patrice McElligott will be working with students at GSC on Thursdays, and she will be offering weekend and evening parenting workshops specifically addressing executive function and attention

challenges and how they impact school and home environments.

Leave Your Sleep for Education:

Our summer was filled with heart-warming moments of LYSFE experiences at 3 summer institutes hosted by the California Association for the Gifted. We worked with schools in Sacramento, Santa Barbara and Oceanside and introduced hundreds of teachers and students to the power of interdisciplinary curricula and integrating music, art, and poetry to expand learning across academic domains. We would love to introduce your school to LYSFE; please let us know how we can assist.

GSC Expands Services

Additional services for the peninsula and San Francisco are in process. These include after-school enrichment programs, teacher training sessions, and keynote presentations covering a variety of topics related to raising and educating gifted and twice-exceptional learners. Please keep an eye out for more to come about these programs in the weeks ahead.



Sandy (L), Ann (Mid L), Kari (Mid R), and Gretchen (R) at CAG Sacramento teacher training summer institute in June

Thank you all for your support and assistance as we grow to help families help their children to receive appropriate services intellectually, academically, socially and emotionally. We have accomplished much but need support from our community to sustain our momentum and broaden our reach. If you or a company you work with would like to contribute we could serve more schools, educators, parents, and children.

We are grateful for your generosity, and look forward to seeing you in the weeks ahead.

Warmly,
Ann Smith



Introducing Patrice McElligott

by Ann Smith

We are thrilled to announce that Patrice has recently joined our team at GSC to help us expand our assessment services. Patrice will be providing achievement testing to help parse out appropriate academic placement for students, and she will be providing parent groups focusing on executive function and attention challenges in students and how these challenges impact home and school environments.

Patrice holds a Masters in Special Education along with Clear Multiple Subject and Special Education Credentials. She is a qualified ADHD and Executive Functioning Parent Coach and is currently working on becoming a Board Certified Educational Therapist. She recently obtained certification in twice exceptional learners. Over the last 20 years, she has worked in both public and private school settings as a teacher and tutor for students in 2nd – 11th grades. She is trained in the Lindamood-Bell LIPS Program and uses a variety of strategies including the Visualizing and Verbalizing Program to enhance reading comprehension. She is highly skilled in teaching writing strategies as well as Singapore Math, and at incorporating Executive Functioning strategies in all

aspects of student learning. Her varied teaching experiences in a variety of schools along with the fact that her own 3 children are twice exceptional learners, gives her a unique perspective on educating gifted students with learning differences from the point of view of a parent, teacher, and a tutor. She believes in identifying and promoting a child's strengths, therefore, instilling a more mindful approach and developing their self-awareness. Patrice's passion is being a resolute proponent for all students and families, and she has vast knowledge of the IEP process. She believes that every student can learn when provided the appropriate accommodations in the classroom, as well as knowing and utilizing the strategies that are effective for their own individual learning preferences.



We recently sat down with Patrice to learn a little more about her and what brings her to the field of gifted and twice-exceptional education:

1) Tell us a little about yourself.

I was born and raised in Redwood City, California and still live in the house I was raised in. I was a regular education and special education teacher for 20+ years until 2 years ago when I decided to pursue Educational Therapy. I have 3 children, all of whom are twice exceptional with incredible strengths and various learning differences.

2) How would you describe yourself?

I am outgoing, cooperative, dedicated, and a team player. I'm extremely passionate about what I do.

3) What do you like to do in your spare time?

I enjoy working out, listening to music, and getting together with friends and family. I love anything to do with being on or near the water. With my kids, I love to go to the beach, play card games, and expose them to anything new and different whether it be an activity or simply trying new food. We love to make sushi together!

4) What is your motto?

All children can learn with the right accommodations and strategies. It's about learning how YOU learn.



LEAVE YOUR SLEEP



LEAVE YOUR SLEEP FOR EDUCATION

Jess (L), Ann (Mid) and Sandy (R) presenting LYSFE in Oceanside in August



LYSFE CELEBRATION

Nicole (L), Gretchen (Mid) and Joe (R) at Leave Your Sleep for Education pilot culmination celebration in May



LYSFE POETS' TABLE

Collections from poets' works that are included in Leave Your Sleep for Education



LYSFE PRESENTATION

Ann presenting LYSFE to educators in Santa Barbara in July



Leave Your Sleep

by Ann Smith

In June, we completed a 2-year pilot program in Bay Area classrooms creating and implementing Leave Your Sleep for Education.

The program was developed through a generous grant with the support of numerous professionals across the country.

We have launched a free online curriculum platform for teachers to access Leave Your Sleep academic lessons to use with PreK-8th grade students.

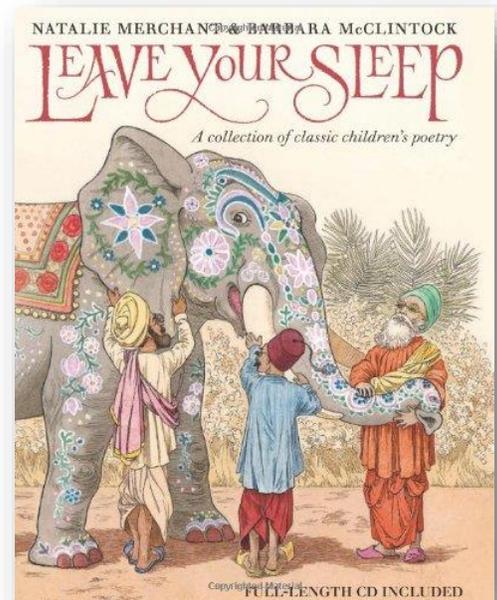
Please join our community by registering for access to the curriculum at

www.leaveyoursleepforeducation.com

and follow links to join us on **social media**.

To order copies of the Leave Your Sleep picture book for your classrooms, please visit,

<http://giftedsupportcenter.com/leave-your-sleep-for-education/>



To learn more about LYSFE in the classroom, please watch our 4-minute pilot video @

<https://vimeo.com/209865096>