

November 2005 Enrichment News

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ExCEL/CML

Week(s) of:

- Oct. 31-Nov. 4 TAG Continental Math League; class #3 (First competition for grades 4-6)
- November 7-11 Seminar #1; session 4
- November 14-18 Seminar #1; session 5
- November 21-23 Affective classes for identified Core students (or seminar m
- Nov. 28-Dec. 2 TAG CML; class #4 (Second competition for grades 4-6)



Time Management for ExCEL Students:

ExCEL students often ignore time or have unrealistic expectations for the amount of work they can accomplish in a defined period of time. Another difficulty for them is their frequent involvement in many activities resulting in less "real" time to use. Some of the most practical ideas to suggest to your children are:

- "To Do" lists updated daily (or use of a daily planner)
- Setting priorities within the list of things to do
- Establishing a specific place (away from distraction) to work on given tasks.
- Visualizing (and writing down) the steps involved in the more complex assignments and projects
- Using visual time lines to show the steps leading toward goals
- Analyzing the level of difficulty of each task and assigning a weight to each with corresponding amounts of time allotted
- Planning the use of short and frequently wasted periods of time throughout the day
- Preparing a time log to analyze the current use of time
- Analyzing the effect of interruptions on the individual's productivity and brainstorming ways to avoid interruptions
- Assessing the best way to complete the task, including possibilities of help from people, places, and things
- Planning target points along the way with assessment and adaptations of the plan if appropriate
- Assessing the personal price one will pay for not completing the assignment.

Identification Reminders

Sixth Grade: Junior High High Performance (HP) Classes

Each year, High Performance classes are offered at our junior high schools in the subject areas of English, Math, Science, and Social Studies. In November, all current sixth graders in our district will receive application packets. This packet will include information regarding the High Performance classes, the application/assessment process and parent meetings. During January, 2006, the assessment portion of the High Performance (HP) application process will be administered during the school day at the students' elementary school. * **The first trimester grades earned by sixth graders are a critical factor in determining placement in next year's High Performance classes.** * Acceptance into HP Math 7 also includes testing results for the NWEA assessment.

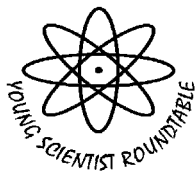
Grades 1-2 and Grades 3-5

Assessment to determine possible TAG (Talented and Gifted) programming for the 2006-2007 school year begins during this school year. I will be assessing nominated students currently in grades 1 - 5 during January, 2006. Contact me if you have questions about the appropriateness of this assessment for your child.

For more information about District 279 TAG Program Services, please access our web site:

<http://www.district279.org/special/tag/>

Enrichment Opportunities for All Families

Youn  ndtable
The Young Scientist Roundtable program designed for students
in grade 6-8 and their parents.

Each Roundtable features exciting ideas and developments in many scientific fields presented by experts.

Free!

Monday, December 5, 2005

Topic and Speaker To Be Announced

Upcoming YSR events:

Tuesday, January 10
Tuesday, February 7
Tuesday March 21 (Lakeville)
Tuesday, April 11



All YSR events are open to students in grades K - 12 and are held in the auditorium at Wayzata Central Middle School, 305 Vicksburg Lane, Plymouth.

The Young Scientist Roundtable programs begin at 7:00 pm. Following the conclusion of the program at 8:00 pm, a "Teen Roundtable", designed especially for students in grades 6 - 12, will take place for an additional half hour. At that time, students will hear more in-depth information about the topic with time for additional questions.

That segment of the evening will end at 8:40 pm.

Questions? Contact Charlene Barghini at 763-745-5208