

Membership 2016-2017

bensalemgifted@gmail.com

www.BensalemGifted.org

Dues are **\$5** per year for a family or individual. Please mail this form and your check made payable to **BADGE** to:

Doug Edwards, BADGE Treasurer
769 Cliff Road
Bensalem, PA 19020

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY:

Parent

Name/s: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

(saves postage & trees when we email you updates)

I am a: Parent Administrator Teacher
 School Board Member Other

Names, Grades, & Schools of Children:

I'd like to help with:

- Back to School Night Info Table
- Bensalem Fall Festival — October 2, 2016
- BADGE Executive Board
- Fifth Grade Transition Party
- Social Events
- Website
- Phone Chain
- Photocopying
- School Board Meetings

Other: _____

What topics are of interest to you that could be the focus of a future BADGE meeting?

What is gifted education?

Gifted education is not a program; it is an individually designed and implemented plan for meeting the needs of each identified gifted student. Bensalem School District offers various enrichment and acceleration opportunities depending on grade level and need:

- **Elementary students** typically participate in a pull out program (the Special Interest Program, "SIP") with a Teacher of the Gifted, and receive differentiated instruction within their regular classroom.
- **6th grade students** gather in one district elementary school to participate in a self-contained program, where Mathematics, Language Arts, Science, and Social Studies are taught by a Teacher of the Gifted.
- **Middle school students** gather in one district middle school to participate in a self-contained program, where Mathematics, Language Arts, Science, and Social Studies are taught by a Teacher of the Gifted.
- **High school students** select gifted courses in the area of Humanities, as well as Honors and Advanced Placement courses in Mathematics and Sciences. Students may also enroll in courses at Holy Family University (at a reduced cost) and independent study.

Each year, or upon parent request, the plan for each child is reviewed and adjusted as needed. This plan is called a "GIEP" (Gifted Individualized Education Plan).

A GIEP should include your child's "PLEP" (Present Levels of Educational Performance), **Annual Goals**, and **Short-term Learning Outcomes**, to be achieved through **Specially Designed Instruction**, with the aid of **Support Services** (counseling, transportation, etc.) as needed.

How can I find out if my child qualifies for gifted services?

A conversation with your child's teacher can be a good place to start. Ultimately, you should submit your written request for testing to the guidance counselor with a copy to the building principal. You should receive a written response from the district within 10 calendar days (excluding summer vacation). BADGE has a **sample letter** available on our website, or email us at bensalemgifted@gmail.com.

All reasonable parent requests should result in a full Gifted Multidisciplinary Evaluation, conducted by a team which includes the parent and a certified school psychologist.

What does BADGE do?

BADGE connects parents with each other, as well as with educators, administrators and the School Board to:

- Share our experiences and our knowledge
- Discuss broad issues and help make the learning experience as rich and rewarding as possible
- Provide information on legislation affecting gifted education so we can help to shape policy
- Advocate for gifted students in Bensalem, both individually and as a group, as needed

We are committed to supporting our gifted students by assisting their parents/guardians in addressing their needs and partnering with our district to preserve the legacy of strong gifted education in our community.

Where can I get more information about gifted education?

Follow us! www.facebook.com/BADGEBensalem

Visit our website! www.bensalemgifted.org

Send us an email! bensalemgifted@gmail.com

Come to a meeting!

Bensalem Township School District:

www.bensalemsd.org ("For Parents"/ Gifted Services)

PAGE (Pennsylvania Association for Gifted Education):

www.giftedpage.org

Office of Dispute Resolution: www.odr-pa.org

ConsultLine at 1-800-879-2301

National Association for Gifted Children:

www.nagc.org

We are a PAGE Affiliate.

What does that mean to you?

PAGE and BADGE provide a forum for parents and educators to explore the academic, social, and emotional needs of children. PAGE works closely with government agencies while focusing on the implementation of Chapter 16 Regulations, Special Education for the Gifted, and current state and federal funding issues.

JOIN PAGE: www.giftedPAGE.org

Individual membership is only \$35 for a full year.

Characteristics of Gifted Children

Characteristic	Positive Behavior	Negative Behavior
Learns rapidly/easily	Memorizes and masters basic facts quickly	Gets bored easily, resists drill, disturbs others, underachieves
Reads intensively	Reads, uses library on own	Neglects other responsibilities
Perfectionist	Exceptional accomplishments	Intolerant of mistakes
Retains quantity of information	Ready recall and responses	Resists repetitions, "Know it all"
Long attention span	Sticks with task of personal interest	Resists class routine, dislikes interruptions
Imaginative, curious, many interests	Asks questions, gets excited about ideas, takes risks	Goes on tangents, no follow through, disorganized
Works independently	Creates and invents beyond assigned tasks	Refuses to work with others
Alert, observant	Recognizes problems	Impolitely corrects adults
Good sense of humor	Able to laugh at self	Plays cruel jokes or tricks on others
Comprehends, recognizes relationships	Able to solve problems alone	Interferes in the affairs of others
Aesthetic insight, awareness	Appreciation of the arts	Poses personal values/ judgments on others
Highly verbal, extensive vocabulary	Fluent with words, numbers, leads peers in positive ways	Leads others into negative behaviors, monopolizes discussion
Individualistic, strong-willed	Asserts self and ideas, has small circle of friends; sense of own uniqueness	Stubborn in beliefs
Self-motivated, self-sufficient	Requires minimum teacher direction or help	Aggressive, challenges authority
Prefers older peers	Wise beyond years	Isolated or misunderstood
Highly sensitive, passionate	Emphasizes fairness, and morality, compassionate	Over-reacts to situations
Views with a different perspective	Observes across boundaries, makes connections	Resists limitations and narrowly focused content

www.facebook.com/BADGEBensalem
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BENSALEM ASSOCIATION DEDICATED TO GIFTED EDUCATION

BADGE MEETINGS for 2016-17:

➤ **Thursday, October 20, 2016**

Curriculum Updates

Guest speakers:

Ms. Kathleen Leon, Assistant to the Superintendent
 Ms. Victoria Velazquez, Director of Elementary Curriculum and Instruction
 Mr. Douglas Ferraro, K-12 Mathematics Supervisor & Data Assessment Coordinator

➤ **Tuesday, January 17, 2017**

Gifted Questions and Answers

➤ **Thursday, March 23, 2017**

Spotlight on Middle School GT

MEETING Time — 7:00 pm

MEETING Location — Robert K. Shafer Middle School Library, 3333 Hulmeville Road, Bensalem, PA unless otherwise indicated.

All parents, educators, community members and well-behaved children are welcome at BADGE meetings.

BADGE Executive Board **BensalemGifted@gmail.com**

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