Professional Voices

Is your group looking for a speaker for your next event? ITAG’s Professional Voices can help you. The ITAG representatives listed below are available to visit with your group about a specific topic in gifted education. Events will be virtual unless the inviting group can provide reimbursement for travel expenses. There is no cost for the presentation, but free-will donations to ITAG are encouraged. Contact info@iowatag.org for more information to get in touch with your desired presenter.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic(s)</th>
<th>ITAG Representative</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>● K-12 GT coordination</td>
<td>Lora Danker, ITAG President</td>
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<td>● Professional development (embedded and as an initiative)</td>
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<td>● PEP-driven curriculum- unpacking standards and creating options for students based on benchmarks (academic, as well as social/emotional, leadership, creativity)</td>
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<td>● Curricular development around PLC Question #4</td>
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<td>● Career and college readiness: creating experiences; measuring student engagement</td>
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<td>● Identification</td>
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<td>Topics</td>
<td>Presenter</td>
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<td>Differentiation for gifted learners, Professional Development, Program Evaluation, Identification, Programming K-12, Personal Education Plans (PEP), Self-advocacy for gifted learners, Parenting/Grandparenting gifted children</td>
<td>Susan Wouters, ITAG Past President</td>
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<td>Working with High School Gifted Students - advocating for high school gifted students, Extended learning opportunities for high school students, Using online learning for gifted students and staff, Identification of underrepresented populations, Professional development, Leadership identification, Equity and Excellence gaps, Extending the standards</td>
<td>Casey Dunley, ITAG Board Member</td>
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Who Can I Talk To About a Specific Topic in Gifted Education?

Need to talk through an idea or bounce ideas off of someone else? Gifted educators throughout the state are here to support each other! Listed below are educators who are self-identified as experts in certain aspects of gifted education. You can reach out directly to the people listed with your question. If you would like to be included on this list, send your name, email address, and areas of expertise to info@iowatag.org.

Lora Danker
dankertag@gmail.com
Roles in public education:
- High school instructor
- Middle school instructor
- K-12 GT Coordinator
- Professional development (embedded and as an initiative)
- PEP-driven curriculum- unpacking standards and creating options for students based on benchmarks (academic, as well as social/emotional, leadership, creativity)
- Career and college readiness: creating experiences; measuring student engagement
- Identification

Kathy Jepson
jepson.kathy@gmail.com
Retired, Iowa City CSD gifted coordinator
- Developing a K-12 program of service
- Curriculum development
- Identification of underrepresented elementary age populations

Kristine Milburn
milburnk@wdmcs.org
Gifted/Talented Coordinator/Program Lead
West Des Moines Community Schools
- High school AP English
- ELA standards, K-12
- AP programming
- Identification, Programming K-12
- Screening/serving marginalized populations
- Professional learning
- Social/emotional learning
- Executive functioning
Felicia Murillo  
[mailto:murillof@wdmcs.org](mailto:murillof@wdmcs.org)  
Gifted/Talented  
Crossroads/Fairmeadows Elementary, West Des Moines schools  
- Resources for anything and everything  
- Math differentiation and classroom collaboration  
- Technology and coding - *I have had training thru Heartland for the Code.org site and continue to learn this, I have used the courses with kids this year as well as start a Girls Who Code club*

Sherice Ortman  
[mailto:ortmansh@waterlooschools.org](mailto:ortmansh@waterlooschools.org)  
Coordinator of Secondary Curriculum & Advanced Programs  
Waterloo Community School District  
- GT program coordinator expert  
- 2e expert  
- IB

Kathy Paul  
[mailto:Kathy.paul@drake.edu](mailto:Kathy.paul@drake.edu)  
Gifted and Talented educator and coordinator  
Drake University adjunct  
- Middle grades gifted students  
- Underachievement & motivation  
- Advocacy for gifted children  
- Communication with school districts  
- Professional learning  
- Young gifted children

Diane Pratt  
[mailto:dianepratt251@gmail.com](mailto:dianepratt251@gmail.com)  
Retired, Ft. Dodge Gifted Services Facilitator, 5-8, Middle School Gifted Instructor  
- K-12, with most depth in middle school. curriculum development at all levels, acceleration processes  
- PD for both TAG and classroom teachers  
- Program evaluation/gap analysis assessment through NAGC
Consultants in Gifted Education

From time to time, districts or schools are interested in bringing in a consultant for the gifted and talented program. The district or school may want to hire a consultant to help lead professional development or strategic planning for the gifted program, evaluate the gifted and talented program, or suggest tweaks to the gifted and talented program to meet the needs of the identified students.

ITAG has compiled a list of current and former gifted and talented teachers from large and small districts in Iowa who are willing to serve as a consultant on one or more aspects of gifted and talented programming and services. See the list of GT consultants.

Additional options for districts include contacting Rosanne Malek, consultant for gifted and talented education at the Iowa Department of Education about programs and services, Tom Cooley, Chief, Bureau of School Business Operations, Iowa Department of Education about gifted finances, or your AEA gifted and talented consultant. Check with your AEA to meet with the GT consultant and learn about the scope of GT services and resources provided.

AEA Contacts for Gifted/Talented

Mandie Sanderman, Central Rivers AEA
asanderman@centralriversaea.org

Chelsie Byram, Central Rivers AEA
cbyram@centralriversaea.org

Hope Brown, Prairie Lakes AEA
hbrown@plaea.org

Erikka Vosmek, Grant Wood AEA
evosmek@gwaea.org
Angie Hance, Green Hills AEA
ahance@ghaea.org

Michelle Kavars, Green Hills AEA
michelle.kavars@lewiscentral.org

Tracy Grimes, Keystone AEA
tgrimes@kestoneaea.org

Andrea Stewart, Mississippi Bend AEA
astewart@mbaea.org

Michelle Jacobsen, Mississippi Bend AEA
mjacobsen@mbaea.org

Laura Musser, Grant Wood AEA
lmusser@gwaea.org

Kyra Wilcox-Conley, Heartland AEA
kwilcox-conley@heartlandea.org

Sue Chartier, Northwest AEA
schartier@nwaea.org

Deb Cook, Great Prairie AEA
deb.cook@gpaea.org

Diane Campbell, Mississippi Bend AEA
dcampbell@mbaea.org

Aaron Maurer, Mississippi Bend AEA
amaurer@mbaea.org

Shannon Pasvogel, Mississippi Bend AEA
spasvogel@mbaea.org