

Dear Parent Group Members,

The Mississippi Association for Gifted Children would like to congratulate your group for the support you are providing for gifted education in your school district. MAGC is committed to assisting you and your school district in this endeavor and invites your parent group to become an affiliate of our state organization.

Founded by parents and teachers in 1974, MAGC is a non-profit organization that serves as a public advocate for gifted children and youth in the state of Mississippi, the only state-level organization specifically for the gifted

The mission of the Mississippi Association for gifted Children is to

- Encourage advocacy, communication, and collaboration among educators, parents, agencies, and other organizations;
- Address the unique needs of gifted children and improve the quality of their educational experiences; and
- Work for improvement in all areas of education and for better educational opportunities for all children.

In 1988, MAGC initiated legislation that resulted in state mandated gifted programs and their funding in all Mississippi public school districts.

What does Mississippi law say about gifted education? The Mississippi Gifted Education Act requires public school districts to provide gifted education programs for intellectually gifted students in grades 2-6. These programs must be designed to meet the individual needs of gifted students and shall be in addition to and different from the regular program of instruction provided by the district. If local funding is available, school districts also may provide programs for intellectually gifted students in grades 7-12, creatively and artistically gifted students in grades 9-12.

In these uncertain economic times, it is doubly important that parents of gifted children join together to send the message to our legislature that gifted education for our children is valued. Please consider adding your association's voice to that of MAGC's in support gifted education for the more than 34,000 gifted children in Mississippi.

Sincerely,

Carol Western Paola, Executive Director 724 Briarwood Drive Long Beach, MS 39560 228-860-1763 Cwp1gab@aol.com