Parent Seminar
Twice Exceptional Supports

Presented by:
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Objectives

- Define and provide characteristics of Twice-Exceptional (2e) Students
- Share resources for student success
- Share external parent website
- Answer questions
Twice Exceptional Video
You Tube
Colorado Definition Twice-exceptional students are:

1. Students who are identified as gifted and talented in one or more areas of exceptionality (specific academics, general intellectual ability, creativity, leadership, visual or performing arts), and also identified with:

2. A disability defined by federal/State eligibility criteria: specific emotional learning disability, significant identifiable disability, physical disabilities, sensory disabilities, autism, or ADHD. The disability qualifies the student for an Individual Education Plan (IEP) or a 504 Plan.
Jeffco’s Body of Evidence

3 pieces from any 2 categories below

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cognitive*</th>
<th>Achievement*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CogAT, NNAT, KBIT</td>
<td>District: MAP Trend, CMAS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IQ tests: DAS, WISC, WPPSI</td>
<td>GT Dept: TERA, TEMA, TOMAGS, KTEA, SAGES, Others</td>
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<tr>
<td>Torrance Test of Creative Abilities</td>
<td>*may have 2 qualifying achievement pieces</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Behavioral Observations*</th>
<th>Performance Evaluation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scales for Identifying Gifted Students (SIGS, normed)</td>
<td>State/national academic contest: top place/ranking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 Traits (for parents, not normed)</td>
<td>Expert juried performance: Advanced/Distinguished</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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*only 1 normed instrument (like SIGS) qualifies

*only 1 qualifies

Qualifying evidence is at the 95th percentile or ‘Advanced/Exceeds’ standards level

No single piece of evidence permanently qualifies / disqualifies a student’s identification
Revised Strength Areas

- General Intellectual Ability*
- Language Arts
  - Reading
  - Writing
- Math
- Science
- Social Studies
- World Language

Talent Areas:
- Creativity
- Leadership
- Visual Arts
  - Performing Arts
    - Music
    - Drama
    - Dance
- Psychomotor

We will honor those transfers in above categories when identifications meet portability guidelines
We no longer have:

‘Verbal’

‘Quantitative’

‘Non-verbal’
Welcome to the Jeffco Gifted and Talented webpage. We are focused on Actualizing Learners' Potential for gifted and high ability learners in Jeffco Schools. We believe all students deserve an education that will provide meaningful growth academically, socially and emotionally. See our Definition of a GT Student and our Board Policy on Gifted Education.

New to GT?
If you or your child was recently identified or you just want a GT introduction, visit our GT 101 page for basic information about giftedness, including resources, links and overview of information.
Characteristics of Twice-Exceptional Children

The following list should be viewed as characteristics that are typical of many children who are gifted and who also have a disability, rather than characteristics that all such children possess. These twice-exceptional children do not form a simple, homogeneous group; they are a highly diverse group of learners.

**Indicators of Cognitive/Affective Strengths**

- Have a wide range of interests that are not related to school topics or learning.
- Have a specific talent or consuming interest area for which they have an exceptional memory and knowledge.
- Are interested in the “big picture” rather than small details.
- Are extremely curious and questioning.
- Possess high levels of problem-solving and reasoning skills.
- Have penetrating insights.
- Are capable of setting up situations to their own advantage often as a coping method.
- Are extremely creative in their approach to tasks and as a technique to compensate for their disability.
- Have an unusual imagination.
- Are humorous often in “bizarre” ways.
- Have advanced ideas and opinions which they are uninhibited in expressing.
- Have a superior vocabulary.
- Have very high energy levels.
Indicators of Cognitive/Affective Problems

- Have discrepant verbal and performance abilities.
- Have deficient or extremely uneven academic skills which cause them to lack academic initiative, appear academically unmotivated, avoid school tasks, and frequently fail to complete assignments.
- Are extremely frustrated by school.
- Have auditory and/or visual processing problems which may cause them to respond slowly, to work slowly, and to appear to think slowly.
- Have problems with long-term and/or short-term memory.
- Have motorical difficulties exhibited by clumsiness, poor handwriting, or problems completing paper-and-pencil tasks.
- Lack organizational skills and study skills, often appearing to be extremely “messy.”
- Are unable to think in a linear fashion; have difficulty following directions.
- Are easily frustrated; give up quickly on tasks; are afraid to risk being wrong or making mistakes.
- Have difficulty explaining or expressing ideas, “getting to the point,” and/or expressing feelings.
- Blame others for their problems while believing that their successes are only due to “luck.”
- Are distractible; unable to maintain attention for long periods of time.
- Are unable to control impulses.
- Have poor social skills; demonstrate antisocial behaviors.
- Are highly sensitive to criticism.
Red Flags to investigate further...

- Anger
- Depressive behaviors
- Self-criticism
- Crying
- Disruptive behaviors
- Clowning
- Withdrawal
- Daydreaming and fantasy
- No filter
- Apathetic behaviors
● Lack of coordination / fine motor difficulties
● Discrepant verbal and performance abilities
● Auditory and visual processing problems
● Memory concerns or problems in recalling information
● Difficulty with step by step directions
● Difficulty explaining or expressing ideas
● Blame others for their problems
● Hygiene sensitivities
● Sleep issues
● Distractible
Faces of the Twice-Exceptional

Famous Faces
We Are Twice-Exceptional
Strengths may include...

- Superior vocabulary
- Highly creative
- Resourceful
- Curious
- Imaginative
- Questioning
- Problem solving

- Sophisticated sense of humor
- Wide range of interests
- Advanced ideas and opinions
- Special talent or consuming interest
Difficulties may include...

- Easily frustrated
- Stubborn
- Manipulative
- Opinionated
- Argumentative
- Written expression
- Inconsistent academic performance
- Lack of organization and study skills
- Difficulty with social interactions
- Highly sensitive to criticism
Creating space within your home and transport

5 minute transport rule

- Noises
- Lights
- Smells
- Visors
- Hot and Cold
- Food
- Textures
- In the queue
- Flooring
- Ceiling
- Island of isolation
- Yellow brick road
- Taping desks
Sensory Tools and Books
What are some key ideas that you heard today that you like?
Why is identification so difficult?

- Strengths and weaknesses may mask each other
- Unique learner profile, atypical of a gifted student or a student with disabilities.
CDE Twice Exceptional Resource Books (volumes I & II)
PBS Misunderstood Minds
2e Twice Exceptional Newsletter