

August 23rd, 2010

Dear Students & Parents,

Welcome back students & parents! I hope that you had a relaxing summer break and students are ready to resume work & TAG servicing for the Fall Semester. My name is Mrs. Maya Edgar, TAG Coordinator for Langston Hughes High School. *We hope that you will join us in creating our LHHS TAG NETWORK for parents, students & teachers on Wednesday, SEPTEMBER 8th, 2010, at 4 pm – 6 pm in room 492 (second floor on left).*

Gifted services will begin this fall (academic advisement is August 30th) and will continue through December 3rd for semester one. For semester two, seminars will begin on the second week of January through May. Once we have completed advisement and signed contracts, below is the general schedule that we will follow this fall:

9th Grade TAG student option:

-Freshman Focus Seminar. This group meets weekly MONDAYS on a rotating schedule during periods 1 or 3. Future goal is to assist and narrow students' focus as they adjust to life in high school and prepare for life beyond high school.

10th Grade TAG student option:

-Bowling Anyone? This group meets weekly TUESDAYS on a rotating schedule during periods 1 or 3. Future goal is participation in the FCS Academic Bowl in February, 2011, Technology Fair in January, 2011 or the Brain Bee Competition in the spring, 2011.

11th/12th Grade TAG student options:


- Independent Study/Individual Projects. This group meets weekly WEDNESDAYS on a rotating schedule during periods 1 or 3. Future goal is to narrow down choices for future career(s) based on research and eventual application through TAG Internship.

- Inside/Outside Link Seminar & Internship. This group meets weekly THURSDAYS on a rotating schedule during periods 1 or 3. Future goal is to gain exposure to possible career through active shadowing and participation within the environment during internship period. Students must complete I.O.L. Seminar Semester 1 and Internship Semester 2.

- Other 11th/12th grade option includes current semester seminar (BOWLING anyone? Seminar).

At all grade levels, the goals of TAG are to:

- Develop advanced research methods and independent learning.
- Generate new ideas and products.

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- Develop higher order and critical thinking skills.
 - Develop advanced communication skills.

At this time, TAG options in gifted services at LHHS include Seminar, Independent Study/Individual Projects, Honors & Advanced Placement Courses, Career Internships and Joint Enrollment.

Evaluation of Student Performance

- Gifted participation credit given for seminars and individual projects, if student satisfactorily meets the requirements on the contract.
- If TAG credit is not earned for a semester, parents are notified of the continuation options such as probation or dismissal from program.
- Annual review of student's progress provided to parents.
- Transcripts sent to colleges explain that student completed additional work through gifted services.

CONTINUATION CRITERIA FOR GIFTED SERVICES

For a student to continue in the TAG program after initial placement, he/she must meet the program's Continuation Criteria. According to Fulton County Board of Education Policy, continuation criteria are satisfactory performance in the TAG program as noted by evaluations of student work and progress and satisfactory performance in the regular educational program. Determination of satisfactory performance would involve data from teacher reports, checklists, and/or standardized test data.

PROBATION FOR GIFTED SERVICES


Students failing to meet the Continuation Criteria are automatically placed on probation. Probation may last for as little as one grading period but no more than one school year. Parents must be notified in writing when a student is placed on probation. A written plan explaining how a student can be removed from probationary status must be included in notification to the parent and student.

In placing a student on probation, the following circumstances should be considered at each grade level:

High School Gifted Services

Unsatisfactory performance in TAG is documented by no credit on the report card for Gifted Participation. No credit would be placed on the report card when a student does not participate in the gifted program for one semester, does not complete a seminar or individual





project contract, earns a grade < 70 in a directed study, internship, AP class, IB class, or joint enrollment class.

DISMISSAL FROM GIFTED SERVICES

Students who do not show improvement after a period of time on probation are dismissed from the program. Parents are notified in writing prior to dismissal. If dismissed, a student may re-enter the TAG program after one semester upon meeting the specification of Continuation Criteria.

I would encourage you to do the following, please support our Fulton County Supporters of the Gifted (FCSG) and NAGC – National Alliance of Gifted Children. There are our support of and for TAG services, options and resources for gifted children and parents on the local county, state and national platforms.

I thank you for the opportunity to provide TAG servicing for your child at Langston Hughes High School. In the event that you have ANY questions, comments or concerns, please contact me via phone (770.774.3620 x 204) or via email edgarm@fultonschools.org at your earliest convenience. I thank you in advance for your support of the TAG program at LHHS this school year.

Sincerely,

Mrs. M. D. Edgar
TAG Contact/Honors Biology Educator

