

CHALLENGE NEWSLETTER

January, 2003

Issue #2

Dear Parents of Challenge and Honor Students,

Welcome to 2003. As we approach the half way point in the school year, many of you have students who are in the midst of college selection or anticipating other transitions. The college applications are sent and now the wait begins. These students will soon be the graduates of 2003. Many of you have students that will make the move from the middle school to Jeff and we look forward to that transition with equal enthusiasm.

This past November the Challenge Program Parents' Group sponsored a meeting for parents of middle school and high school students interested in an early look at the "college decision" and the processes, procedures, and choices that will confront them and their students. About 40 parents attended to hear Mr. Tom Fujimura, Jeff's Director of Guidance, and Mrs. Jan Philpy, parent of two of Jeff's alumni. While Mr. Fujimura focused on issues of class selection and testing opportunities for Jeff's students, Mrs. Philpy listed many helpful ideas for parents that will save considerable time while finding the right college. Hopefully, the evening was helpful to make these important decisions less stressful. We greatly appreciate the time and information that Mr. Fujimura and Mrs. Philpy shared with us that evening.

The Indiana Association for the Gifted/Indiana Department of Education annual state conference is scheduled in Indianapolis for February 26 and 27. The conference will be at the Westin Hotel, 50 S. Capitol Ave. The first evening (2/26) is a free Parents' Night from 6:30-8:30 pm. Dr. Sally Reis, University of Connecticut, will speak from 7:00-8:00 pm. Dr. Reis is a past President of the National Assoc. for Gifted Children and also the author of *Gifted Kids: Underachievement and Other Social and Emotional Issues*. If you would like additional information about the conference or IAG please call our office at 772-4780.

Please note dates for the Broad Based Planning Team meetings in January and April. The January date and time have changed since the October Newsletter. You are invited and encouraged to participate with the teachers and administrators in the continued development of the Challenge Program.

Sincerely,

Dr. Vicki Vaughn
Challenge Program Coordinator

FYI

Broad Based Planning Team meetings for 2003:

Tuesday, Jan. 21, 2003 @Hiatt Administration Center in the Board Room, 6:30-7:30p.m.
(This is a date and time change.)

Wednesday, March 26, 2003 @Hiatt Administration Center in the Superintendent's
Conference Room, 3:45 p.m.- 4:45 p.m.

Important Testing Dates

High School / Middle School Students

SAT : site is Jeff high School*

Test Date: Registration Deadline:

January 25 December 23

April 5 February 28

May 3 March 28

June 7 May 2

ACT :Test Date: Registration Deadline:

February 8 January 3

April 12 March 7

June 14** May 9

*Please call your student's counselor for additional information.

**ACT site is Jeff High School

NWEA Test for Middle Schools: Dates have not been finalized. Look for testing
information in mid to late April from your students' school.

Honors Program Information night

January 28, 2003,

the Jeff High School Auditorium from 7:00-8:30 p.m.

The evening will focus on the process for students presently in grades 7-11 that want to
participate in Honors/AP classes at Jeff High School. Middle School students and parents
will find this information very helpful with decisions that will be made this spring
concerning high school scheduling.

Elementary Information:

Otis-Lennon School Ability Test, for Grade 1, is schedule for the week of March 3-7. Testing is approximately one hour.

NWEA testing for grades 2, 3, 4 & 5: Testing will be April 21(pm)-25 (am). Students new to LSC may be given locator tests before the testing begins.

Grade 5 students will receive information about middles school classes and opportunities throughout the spring. Students will visit middle schools in May.

Parents: If you are looking for summer activities for your student(s), please call our office at Edgelea, 772-4780 to see what kinds of information we have. We have information on Super Saturday at Purdue and residential camps on other college campuses.

State Champions !!!!!!!

Last November four Tecumseh Middle School students entered and won the regional tournament "For the Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology "- Lego Robotics held in West Lafayette. In early December, Kerby Hughes, Ed Paget, Josh Williams and Edward Coyle then took their talents to Fort Wayne to compete with 70 other Indiana teams and a few teams from Kentucky and Michigan for a state title. On their way to the state title, this talented team won the Robot Performance Award and the Innovative Design Award. Our congratulations to these four Tecumseh students, to their parents and teachers that have helped develop these championship problem solving skills.