

## President's Message

Dear FCSG Parents and Teachers:

Now that the 2006 – 2007 school year has come to a close we would like to highlight the exciting progress and news of the last year and begin to focus on our goals for the 2007 – 2008 school year.

One of our goals for this year was to revitalize our organization and increase both teacher and parent participation. We accomplished that goal by adding more than 50 new teacher and parent members.

We also wanted to ensure that the vital mini-grant and camp scholarship programs were jump started this year. We had good participation and are thrilled with the mini-grants and scholarships your organization was able to provide. You can see a list of the recipients in this newsletter.

Parents have told us that they find the evening speaker program very valuable. On May 14<sup>th</sup> Linda Andrews, Gifted Education Specialist, Georgia Department of Education, made a presentation on Georgia curriculum for the gifted and then took questions for 45 minutes after her presentation. Everyone in attendance found both the presentation and the Q&A time enlightening.



### What's coming for 2007-2008?

We launch into the new school year on August 9<sup>th</sup> with a TAG teacher appreciation luncheon. This is held in conjunction with their day long pre-planning meeting. FCSG will be providing lunch and door prizes and will use the opportunity to promote the benefits of joining FCSG.

Feeding off the success of Linda Andrews' presentation we will have an evening presentation after the start of the new school year. Be on the lookout for a mailing with more information.

Extending a long history of success, we will work hard to expand the participation in the Teacher Mini-Grant and Camp Scholarship Programs.

In closing I'd like to share 2 examples of the FCSG at work. The first is about a parent that was moving into Fulton County from out-of-state. She found the FCSG website and then contacted us looking for information on the Fulton County gifted programs. Through the FCSG organization and web site this parent was able to connect with other TAG parents. She was able to find answers to many of her questions and put her mind at ease about moving into the Fulton County School System. With your support of the FCSG, we are able to help parents like this who are seeking answers

and looking to connect with parents in a similar situation.

Another example is of a young student who was not able to afford to participate in a TAG field trip. Through a grant provided by the Crane Fund to FCSG we were able to provide a scholarship for this student to participate. Her parents were very moved by the helping hand extended by the FCSG – your support makes these learning opportunities possible!

Lastly, I would like to thank those who serve with me on the FCSG board. Also a huge thank-you to Amy Barger/TAG Coordinator and Gymah Whitaker/Teacher Instructional Support from Fulton County for all the time they committed to our group. Many individuals have stepped up in 2006 – 2007 to help revitalize this organization and we all look forward to an even more exciting 2007 -2008!

Best Regards,  
Paul J. Schutes  
President, FCSG



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### Upcoming Events

FCSG will host their Annual Back to School Teacher Luncheon on August 9th at Ridgeview Charter School



## Our Purpose

As a local chapter of the Georgia Association of Gifted Children, working with the Fulton County School System, the Fulton County Supporters of the Gifted (FCSG) is comprised of Fulton

County parents, teachers, and other interested persons. Our purpose is to advance the development of gifted children's potential through advocacy, and educational support at the federal,

state, and local levels. Meetings are held several times a year and feature speakers on giftedness, legislators, and educators discussing TAG programs. [www.fultongifted.org](http://www.fultongifted.org)

## YOUR FCSG Board

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## Parent Interests

### GRANTS...SCHOLARSHIPS... YEAH!!!

FCSG awarded grants to 4 teachers and camp scholarships to 3 TAG students. The teachers were Nancy Garrelts from Medlock Bridge Elementary for a variety of classroom edition Super Science and Social Studies books, Vickie McElroy from Northwestern Middle for a full classroom set of "Animal Farm" books, Windy Levesque from Ocee Elementary for her Alternative Energy project, and April Giles and Lee Philips from State Bridge Crossing Elementary for their Mindstorm Robotics project. The Camp Scholarships were awarded to Cameron Lowe from Spalding Drive Charter for the Imagine That! & Future Tech camp, Jack Maberry from Northwestern Middle for the Acadia Rock Climbing and Adventure Camp, and Bethany Ferguson from Crabapple Middle for the Emory Computer Camp/iD Tech Camp. Congratulations to all 7!

### THE CRANE FUND

Many Fulton County students benefited from the Crane Fund For Widows And Children which makes contributions to charitable organizations that provide direct assistance to underserved individuals. Listed below are schools that enjoyed TAG endorsed field trips generously funded through The Crane Fund. To learn more visit [www.craneco.com/about/philanthropy.cfm](http://www.craneco.com/about/philanthropy.cfm)

**Evoline C. West** (\$165-1 student for Tybee Island Trip, 1 student Smokey Mountain Trip), **College Park Elementary** (\$150-1 student for Tybee Island Trip), **Parklane Elementary** (\$150-1 student for Tybee Island Trip), **Renaissance Elementary** (\$100-1 student for Tybee Island Trip), **North Springs High** (\$20-Transportation for Internship), **Conley Hills Elementary** (\$150-2 students for Tybee Island Trip), **Esther Jackson Elementary** (\$150-1 student for Tybee Island Trip), **Campbell Elementary** (\$600-5 students for Tybee Island Trip)

### SUMMER READING IDEAS 4th & 5th

**Stars and Planets** (Discoveries Series) by David H Levy. This book provides an overview of the solar system and its various parts, as well as such other related topics as stars, galaxies, telescopes and observatories, and more.

**The Weather (100 Things You Should Know About Series)** by Clare Oliver. This book takes you on an amazing tour of wild weather systems. Exactly 100 facts accompanied by detailed artwork reveal the power of mighty thunderstorms and the calm at the eye of the hurricane.

**Under One Rock: Bugs, Slugs and Other Ughs** by Anthony Fredericks. Have you ever peeked under a rock? A whole community of creatures lives there! One of the world's most fascinating habitats is right at your feet. No child will be able to resist looking under a rock after reading Fredericks's rhythmic, engaging story, and seeing DiRubbio's vivid close-up illustrations. This book will inspire endless exploration.

**Peterson First Guide to Urban Wildlife** by Sarah B. Landry. Peterson First Guides are the first books the beginning naturalist needs, and they focus on the animals, plants, and other natural things you are most likely to see. They make it fun to get into the field and easy to progress to the full-fledged Peterson Guides.

**Fun With Nature Take Along Guide** by Mel Boring, Leslie A. Dendy. This guide provides detailed descriptions and illustrations of more than 150 different animals and plants.



### MEMBERSHIP GOALS

With FCSG's new revitalized effort this year, our membership levels have doubled over last year. As of May 17th, 2007 our organization had 114 Fulton County teachers and 134 Fulton families join FCSG. With their membership, these teachers and families were able to apply for a mini grant or a camp scholarship plus received our informational newsletter. Members also enjoyed a fact filled event with Linda Andrews discussing all aspects of our Fulton County TAG program. We look forward to bigger leaps and bounds next year.



### SIG?

The Summer Institute for the Gifted provides academically advanced students with an exciting and challenging educational experience. The program combines remarkable academic courses with cultural, social, and recreational opportunities. The academic program is central to the design and purpose of SIG. Our program provides students with academic challenges designed to fit their abilities and interests. It also provides them with the opportunity to engage with other students who have similar abilities and interests. Because of our small classes, low teacher-student ratio, and the presence of an assistant in every class, we are able to individualize the program for each and every student. To find out more about SIG, please visit their website at [www.giftedstudy.com](http://www.giftedstudy.com)

### INTERESTING FACT FUN WEBSITES:

- \*Interested in space, stars, and the far beyond? Visit [www.starlab.com](http://www.starlab.com) and discover a whole new world.
- \*Numbers can be fun! Check out [www.math.hmc.edu/funfacts/](http://www.math.hmc.edu/funfacts/)
- \*Animals, geography, magic? Try [www.kidzone.ws/](http://www.kidzone.ws/)
- \*Have the need to move and learn? Read about Dr. Nita Mathews-
- \*Morgan and Brain Gym at [www.braingym.org](http://www.braingym.org)
- \*Housefly the most dangerous animal? Find out why at [www.hightechscience.org/funfacts.htm](http://www.hightechscience.org/funfacts.htm)
- \*Yes, 50 states can be intriguing! Check it out at <http://factfinder.census.gov/home/en/kids/kids.html>
- \*Happening events in Atlanta, go to [www.atlantaplanit.com](http://www.atlantaplanit.com)
- \*To receive Duke News visit [www.dukegiftedletter.com](http://www.dukegiftedletter.com)



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Place  
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