

# SCOTIA-GLENVILLE CENTRAL SCHOOLS



September 2009



OPAL

where students shine

Opportunities & Programs for Advanced Learners

## Parent Corner

Each month we will provide you with information regarding community activities for your children and/or information about gifted learners.

### OPAL Committee at Scotia Glenville

The Scotia Glenville District OPAL committee has 2 parent seats open for the 2009-2010 school year. We are looking for individuals who meet the following criteria:

- A parent of a child who participates in gifted programming at any level 1 – 12.
- Has high interest in the needs of advanced learners
- Willing to sit on this committee 5 times/school year for a 3 yr term

A letter of interest can be submitted to Ms. Sarah Cioffi [scioffi@sgcsd.net](mailto:scioffi@sgcsd.net) by October 8th.

### Community Events

Empire State Aerosciences Museum  
[www.esam.org](http://www.esam.org)

New York State Museum  
[www.nysm.nysed.gov](http://www.nysm.nysed.gov)

### Parent Resources

**AGATE**(Advocacy for Gifted & Talented Ed in NY)  
Round table or presentation sessions to expand understanding of giftedness. This year the annual conference is Oct. 23,24 at Long Island University in Brookville, NY.

[Agatenyc.ipower.com/index.html](http://Agatenyc.ipower.com/index.html)

### Parent information page

[www.hoagiesgifted.org](http://www.hoagiesgifted.org)

### Leveled book list

[Home.comcast.net/~ngiansante/](http://Home.comcast.net/~ngiansante/)

The whole art of teaching is only the art of awakening the natural curiosity of the young mind for the purpose of satisfying it afterwards—Anatole France

Maria Maynard: [mmaynard@sgcsd.net](mailto:mmaynard@sgcsd.net)

Cily Rueda: [crueda@sgcsd.net](mailto:crueda@sgcsd.net)

## Primary OPAL

**Grades 1 and 2:** Available to primary teachers for the second year will be interdisciplinary learning centers created from themed suggestions by classroom teachers. These centers have been placed in each classroom and will address the need of advanced learners as well as any other students who may move quickly through material.

Pull out services at these levels will begin in November, based on selected criteria.

## Intermediate OPAL

**Grade 3:** All grade 3 students will be taking the TCS2 test in their schools the week of September 21. This is one piece of data that S-6 uses to identify students at this level. Upon return of these scores to us in early November, identification will occur and services will begin.

**Grade 4:** The theme of our year is *Questions*. During the year, students will investigate the nature of asking questions and seeking answers to these questions. They will explore the curiosity of Shakespeare and Socrates. They will ultimately gain an understanding about how our society has evolved because people were bold enough to ask questions.

**Grade 5:** The theme of our year is *Viewpoints*. During the year, students will learn a variety of critical thinking skills and learn to consider others' perspectives as they learn the process of formal debate. They will be challenged to consider topics such as rich vs poor, animal rights, and hypothetical situations involving difficult decisions.

