

Why Parent Groups?



AAGT Explores the benefits of Parent Groups

BENEFITS OF PARENT GROUPS

Parent groups bring parents, teachers, and administrators together to make sure gifted kids get what they need to thrive. These groups create a space where families can connect, schools can listen, and everyone can work together to support gifted learners.

For families, joining a parent group means finding others who truly get it. Parenting a gifted child can feel isolating—whether it's worrying about your child's struggles, not knowing who to ask for advice, or even feeling like you can't share your child's successes without being misunderstood. In a parent group, you'll find empathy, validation, and support from people who understand both the joys and the challenges.

For schools and districts, parent groups build stronger relationships with families, provide helpful feedback before issues grow, and create local advocates who support all gifted students—not just their own.

RESOURCES



AAGT
Parent and Student Resources Hub



NAGC
Family Tip Sheets on Advocacy, Creativity, Giftedness, Social Emotional Development



Davidson Institute
The Changing Role of Parents in Gifted Education Programs

HOW PARENT GROUPS HELP FAMILIES



Real Support

Connect with other parents who understand the ups and downs of raising a gifted child.

A Safe Space

Celebrate your child's growth without judgment.

Shared Understanding

Learn more about gifted characteristics, challenges, and intensities that often go beyond what assessments explain.

Resources & Ideas

Swap information about local opportunities, services, and extracurriculars.

Better Communication

Gain tools to build strong, positive relationships with educators and talk about your child's needs effectively.

Community

Build friendships, share cultural and social experiences, and know you're not alone.

HOW PARENT GROUPS HELP SCHOOLS & DISTRICTS



Expanded Support

Strengthen community backing for gifted programs.

Parent Advocacy

Empower families to champion gifted education.

Early Feedback

Get insights from parents before concerns escalate.

Trust & Transparency

Foster stronger relationships between families and district leadership.

Accurate Information Sharing

Ensure consistent communication about gifted programs.

Parent Education

Help families understand giftedness and realistic expectations for school.

ADE Compliance

Meet the Arizona Department of Education's parent engagement requirements (Gifted Education Scope & Sequence, A.R.S. § 15-779.02).



Parent Groups are already benefitting Valley families and gifted programs:

DVUSD Gifted Services is proud to partner with Deer Valley Gifted Community. Collaborating with a gifted parent affiliate such as Deer Valley Gifted Community allows district leaders to gain valuable perspectives regarding student, family, and community needs . . . [p]artnering with Deer Valley Gifted Community provides numerous benefits, including increased communication, resources, and support for gifted programming . . . [w]hen gifted educators and parents work together, students WIN.

~ **Dr. Aimee Sulit, DVUSD Manager, Gifted & Advanced Academics**

The Tempe Elementary School District Gifted Department collaborates closely with its dedicated parent group, Tempe Parents for the Gifted (TPG). This partnership enhances the academic opportunities for Tempe gifted students while simultaneously creating pathways for authentic partnerships with families across all layers of gifted services . . . [p]artnerships with parent groups help to foster a strong sense of community for gifted students and their families.

~ **Amy Evans, Gifted Coordinator, Tempe Elementary School District**

Tempe Parents for the Gifted (TPG) has been a valuable resource for gifted students and their families, providing essential resources to parents. By hosting engaging community events and creating a supportive network, TPG connects parents of gifted children, fostering a sense of community and shared experience. Through these initiatives, TPG empowers families . . . ensuring that both parents and students thrive in an environment tailored to their growth and success.

~ **Nallely Morales, Parent and TPG President 2024-25, AAGT Affiliate**

The goal of the Deer Valley Gifted Community (DVGC) is to create a space online that would be both safe and encouraging for our members to share their resources, be informed, and find support and network. . . . [A good working relationship with the District] allows us to bring our [parent] voice to the table when decisions are being made. . .

~ **Beth Baker, Parent and DVGC Co-Founder, AAGT Affiliate**

Through AAGT mentorship, AAGT encourages parent groups to express gratitude for current efforts while learning to respectfully and effectively communicate the genuine learning and developmental needs of gifted students—using both data and personal stories.

Connect with AAGT

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