

Kentucky Association for Gifted Education Annual Conference

Monday, February 23, 2026

7:30 - 8:30	Conference Check-In and Continental Breakfast	Exhibit Hall
8:30-10:00	Recognition of Distinguished Student Award Winner Recognition of Michael Caudill Award Winner	Salon CDE
	The Nature and Nurture of Creative Expertise Shelagh Gallagher, PhD, College of William and Mary	
10:20-12:20	The Administrators' Institute Julia Roberts, EdD, The Center for Gifted Studies at WKU Shelagh Gallagher, PhD, College of William and Mary	
	Social, Emotional, and Educational Needs of Gifted Students: Myths and Realities Ed Amend, PsyD, The Amend Group	
	Leveling Up with Project Based Learning Sherri Rhodes, Jefferson County Public Schools Christina Mudd, Jefferson County Public Schools	
	Infinite Campus (Useful Reporting Tools for Tammy Tomes, Bullitt County Public Schools	
1:45 - 3:00	Educating 2 E Learners: A Strength Based Approach Tracy Inman, EdD, Gifted Education Consultant Brittney Dodds, Fayette County Public Schools	
12:30 - 1:30	Lunch	
	The Administrator's Institute Julia Roberts, EdD, The Center for Gifted Studies Shelagh Gallagher, PhD, The College of William and Mary	
1:45-3:45	Differentiating so Every Student Learns Something New Lynette Breedlove, PhD, The Gatton Academy	
	Exploring the Basics of Gifted Education Sarah Coomer and the Bullitt County Gifted and Talented Department	
	How to Use AI to Foster Big Dreams for Kentucky's Bright Minds	

Tyler Clark, EdD, The Center for Gifted Studies

1:45 - 2:40

**Identifying and Serving Musically Gifted
Students in Rural and High Poverty Areas**

Elizabeth Edwards, EdD

Jeanne Lee, Harlan County Schools

2:50 - 3:45

Neuroarts

Leslie Smart, The Louisville Ballet

Dinner on your own

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Tuesday, February 24, 2026

7:30-8:30	Registration and Continental Breakfast	Exhibit Hall
8:00	KAGE Business Meeting	Salon CDE
8:30 - 9:15	Using Local Norms to Identify YOUR Gifted Students Tyler Clark, The Center for Gifted Studies, WKU Unlocking Potential through the Arts: Arts Integration Ashley Perkins, Collaborative for Teaching and Learning Jessie Thompson, Jefferson County Public Schools Emily Wilson, Center for Teaching and Learning Math Minds in Motion Jamie-Marie Miller, Eastern Kentucky University Heather Campbell Beyond the Page: Our GT Reading Adventure Shelby Turner, Bardstown Independent Schools Local Accountability in the Bluegrass State Karen Perry, Kentucky Department of Education Susan Dugle, Kentucky Department of Education	
9:30 -10:15	The Importance of Advanced Coursework Julia Roberts, The Center for Gifted Studies, WKU Tyler Clark, The Center for Gifted Studies, WKU Teaching Leadership Across the Grade Levels Toddie Adams, Marshall County Schools Super Enrichment, Super Acceleration: Integrated STEM Lesia Lennex, Morehead State University Kim Nettleton, Morehead State University Gera Nelson, Morehead State University Michael Kessinger, Morehead State University Dynamic Duos: Elevating Literacy through Paired Texts Genny Jenkins, GWC STEM Academy for Boys, Fayette County Public Schools From Law to Lessons: Gifted Education in Action Jilliane McCardle, Eastern Kentucky University Kimberley Clayton-Code, Northern Kentucky University	
10:30 - 11:15	Identifying and Serving Diverse Learners Dina Brulles, Arizona State University Kimberly Lansdowne, Arizona State University Talent Search 101 Why Should Students Participate? Jennifer Wilson, The Center for Gifted Studies, WKU Future Ready Thinkers: Engaging Gifted Learners with AI Ashley Marker, Bullitt County Public Schools	

Ensuring All Students Grow as Readers

Denise Ahlquist, Great Books Foundation

Grouping, Looping, Student Choice: Impacts on Rural Gifted Education

Abigail Wheaton, Union County Public Schools

11:30 - 12:15

Beyond Identification: A Framework for Supporting all Learners

Angie Fugate, Miami County Educational Service Center

Interactive Resource: Responding to the Arts

Jessica Greene, Kentucky Department of Education

STEAM in GT and PTP Pull Out Classes

Lori Smith, Warren County Public Schools

Morgan Meredith, Warren County Public Schools

Elizabeth Joyce, Warren County Public Schools

Think Fast! Using Brain Jumpstarts to Boost Critical and Creative

Ben Bache, PBL Project

Take a Deep Breath and Teach

Bobbie Noall, Green River Regional Education Cooperative

Heather Kessler, Green River Educational Cooperative

12:30 - 1:15

Inclusive Pathways: Equitable

Identification and Cluster Grouping

Kimberley Lansdowne, Arizona State University

Dina Brulles, Arizona State University

How One Question can Inspire Students: Future City Competition

Amanda Harris, Shelby County Public Schools

Impact of Authentic Educational Engagement on Student Outcomes

Stephanie Lewis, Bullitt County Advanced Math and Science Program

Payton Coogle, Bullitt County Advanced Math and Science Program

Kentucky Green Schools: Student Led Investigations that Inspire

Perry Thomas, Kentucky Association for Environmental Education

Game On! A Playbook for Championing Gifted Education

Justin Mitchell, Simpson County Public Schools

Elizabeth Joyce, Warren County Public Schools

1:30 - 2:15

Supporting GT Families: Sharing Practical Tips for

Lisa Hoffman, Indiana University Southeast

Alan Zollman, Indiana University Southeast

Born to Lead: Helping Gifted Learners Develop Leader

Kimberly Clayton-Code, Northern Kentucky University

STEM based GT Activities for Young Ecologists

Jamie Marie Miller, Eastern Kentucky University

Transforming Learning for Gifted Students

Melissa Thompson, Kentucky Department of Education

2:30 - 3:30

Ode to Joy: Remembering Why We Do What We Do

Tracy Inman, Gifted Education Consultant