

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	Opening Session	Salon CDE
	Recognition of Distinguished Student Award Winner Tymber Garrett, Metcalfe County Middle School	
	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, WKU Shelagh Gallagher, PhD, College of William and Mary	Salon AB
	Social, Emotional, and Educational Needs of Gifted Students: Myths and Realities Ed Amend, PsyD, The Amend Group	Salon GH
	Leveling Up with Project-Based Learning Sheri Rhodes, Jefferson County Public Schools Christie Mudd, Jefferson County Public Schools	Salon CDE
	Infinite Campus (Useful Reporting Tools for GT) Tammy Tomes, Bullitt County Public Schools	Salon F
	Educating 2-E Learners: A Strength Based Approach Tracy Inman, EdD, Gifted Education Consultant Britt Dodds, PsyD, Fayette County Public Schools	Terrace
12:30 - 1:30	Lunch in The Paddock	
1:45 - 3:00	The Administrators Institute(continued) Julia Roberts, EdD, The Center for Gifted Studies Shelagh Gallagher, PhD, The College of William and Mary	Salon AB
1:45-3:45	Differentiating So Every Student Learns Something New Lynette Breedlove, PhD, The Gatton Academy	Terrace
	Exploring the Basics of Gifted Education Sarah Coomer and the Bullitt County Gifted and Talented Department	Salon GH
	How to Use AI to Foster Big Dreams for Kentucky's Bright Minds Tyler Clark, EdD, The Center for Gifted Studies Janet Tassell, PhD, Western Kentucky University	Salon CDE

1:45 - 2:40	Identifying and Serving Musically Gifted Students in Rural and High Poverty Areas Elizabeth Edwards, EdD, Middlesboro Independent Schools Jeanne Lee, Harlan County Schools	Salon F
2:50 - 3:45	Neuroarts: A Paradigm Shift in Advancing Health, Wellness, and Educational Attainment Leslie Smart CFRE, CEO, The Louisville Ballet	Salon F

Dinner on your own

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Tuesday, February 24, 2026

7:30-8:30	Conference Check-In 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, EdD, The Center for Gifted Studies, WKU	Terrace
	Unlocking Potential through the Arts: Arts Integration Ashley Perkins, Collaborative for Teaching and Learning Emily Wilson, Collaborative for Teaching and Learning	Salon F
	Math Minds in Motion Jamie-Marie Miller, PhD, Eastern Kentucky University Heather Campbell, PhD, Eastern Kentucky University	Salon AB
	Beyond the Page: Our GT Reading Adventure Shelby Turner, Bardstown Independent Schools	Salon CDE
	Local Accountability in the Bluegrass State Karen Perry, Kentucky Department of Education Susan Dugle, Kentucky Department of Education	Salon GH
9:30 -10:15	The Importance of Advanced Coursework Julia Roberts, EdD, The Center for Gifted Studies, WKU Tyler Clark, EdD, The Center for Gifted Studies, WKU	Terrace
	Teaching Leadership Across the Grade Levels Toddie Adams, PhD, Marshall County Schools	Salon CDE
	Super Enrichment, Super Acceleration: Integrated STEM Lesia Lennex, EdD, Morehead State University Kim Nettleton, EdD, Morehead State University Gera Nelson, PhD, Morehead State University Michael Kessinger, EdD, Morehead State University	Salon AB
	Raising the Rigor in the Elementary School Classroom with Math Problem-Solving Janet Tassell, PhD, Western Kentucky University	Salon GH
	From Law to Lessons: Gifted Education in Action Jilliane McCardle, EdD, Eastern Kentucky University Kimberley Clayton-Code, PhD, Northern Kentucky University	Salon F
10:30 - 11:15	Identifying and Serving Diverse Learners Kimberly Lansdowne, PhD, Arizona State University	Salon F
	Talent Search 101: Why Should Students Participate? Jennifer Wilson, The Center for Gifted Studies, WKU Tyler Clark, EdD, The Center for Gifted Studies, WKU	Salon AB
	Future Ready Thinkers: Engaging Gifted Learners with AI Ashley Marker, Bullitt County Public Schools	Salon CDE
	Dynamic Duos: Elevating Literacy through Paired Text Genny Jenkins, Fayette County Public Schools	Salon GH
	Grouping, Looping, Student Choice: Impacts on Rural Gifted Education Abigail Wheaton, Union County Public Schools	Terrace
11:30 - 12:15	Beyond Identification: A Framework for Supporting All Learners Angie Fugate, Miami County Educational Service Center	Terrace
	Interactive Resource: Responding to the Arts Jessica Greene, PhD, Kentucky Department of Education	Salon F
	STEAM in GT and PTP Pull Out Classes Lori Smith, Warren County Public Schools	Salon CDE

	Morgan Meredith, Warren County Public Schools Elizabeth Joyce, Warren County Public Schools	
	Ensuring All Students Grow as Readers Denise Ahlquist, Great Books Foundation	Salon GH
	Take a Deep Breath and Teach Bobbie Noall, Green River Regional Education Cooperative Heather Kessler, Green River Regional Educational Cooperative	Salon AB
	Bridging the Gap: Embedding Gifted Education in Teacher Prep (for University Faculty) Kimberly Clayton-Code, PhD, Northern Kentucky University	Meet in Lobby
12:30 - 1:15	Inclusive Pathways: Equitable Identification and Cluster Grouping in Gifted Education Kimberley Lansdowne, PhD, Arizona State University	Salon F
	How One Question Can Inspire Students: Future City Competition Amanda Harris, Shelby County Public Schools	Salon AB
	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	Salon GH
	Think Fast! Using Brain Jumpstarts to Boost Critical and Creative Thinking Ben Bache, PBL Project	Terrace
	Game On! A Playbook for Championing Gifted Education Justin Mitchell, Simpson County Public Schools Elizabeth Joyce, Warren County Public Schools	Salon CDE
1:30 - 2:15	Supporting GT Families: Sharing Practical Tips for Nurturing Life Skills Lisa Hoffman, PhD, Indiana University Southeast	Salon AB
	Born to Lead: Helping Gifted Learners Develop Leader Identity Purposefully Kimberly Clayton-Code, PhD, Northern Kentucky University Sara Runge, PhD, Northern Kentucky University	Terrace
	STEM Based GT Activities for Young Ecologists Jamie Marie Miller, PhD, Eastern Kentucky University	Salon F
	Transforming Learning for Gifted Students Melissa Thompson, Kentucky Department of Education	Salon CDE
	Kentucky Green Schools: Student-Led Investigations that Inspire Deeper Learning Perry Thomas, PhD, Kentucky Association for Environmental Education	Salon GH
2-30 - 3:30	Closing Session	Salon CDE
	Recognition of 2026 Service and Advocacy Award Winner Brooke Morgan, Union County Schools	
	Recognition of 2026 Michael Caudill Educator Award Winner Christa Winarski, Breckinridge County Schools	
	Ode to Joy: Remembering Why We Do What We Do Tracy Inman, EdD, Gifted Education Consultant	