

March 21, 2018

## PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Good Evening KGTC:

What a week in Washington D.C.! Your KGTC Executive Board was fighting for “gifted language” to remain in the Higher Education Act and for the government to continue funding the Jacob Javits Grant. We went to Capitol Hill and met with staffers from all of our representative and senators’ offices. This included Pat Roberts, Jerry Moran, Ron Estes, Kevin Yoder and Lynn Jenkins. Our secretary Jessica LaFollette had bonus meetings with representatives from Missouri (Roy Blunt, Claire McCaskill and Emmanuel Cleaver). Meetings were amazing and promising. You can be very proud of your Board and your Governance Chair who arranged all these meetings. I am so PROUD to be a part of this board and organization that supports us with this opportunity to fight for what we are passionate about and that is our gifted kids.

Registration is up and running and so is Call for Proposals for our Conference in the fall. Please register for this great conference to be held in October (7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>) at Emporia State University featuring Donna Ford and Kathy Nilles. Parent Day and Student Day will be on that Sunday. Sunday evening will feature a Regional Showcase at Twin Rivers Winery in Emporia. This is an opportunity for your regions to display the great work they have accomplished throughout the year. Kathy and Donna will open our eyes about Diversity and the underserved population and non-identified gifted students. Also be sure to send in a proposal to present at this conference. You won’t want to miss it.

Remember we have two great Region Conferences coming up in April that you won’t want to miss out on. April 13<sup>th</sup> is our Region 6 conference in Pittsburg featuring Brandi Kleppar and Kris Wiley. This will be a joint meeting with our neighboring state of Missouri continuing to build our relationships with other states. Look for more information to be on the website very soon. Then on April 21<sup>st</sup> our Region 3 conference will be in Overland Park at the KU Edwards campus featuring the nationally known “Gifted Guru” Lisa Van Gemert. Won’t want to miss out on either of these conferences. These are open to all members, parents and administrators. Look for information on the website very soon and look on our Facebook page also.

This summer is shaping up for another great KGTC conference. Region 2 will be hosting well-known speaker Ginger Lewman on June 19<sup>th</sup> in Salina. This is already up and running on the website and you won’t want to miss out on this one either.

WOW! We are off to a great start for great conferences with great speakers. Please plan to attend at least one if not all of these conferences. If transportation is a

problem for some of you, please let me know and we will work to find a bus to meet people at a central location and transport you to where you want to go.

I want each and every one of you to know that I am so proud to be a part of this great organization and that I value each and every one of you. If you ever have any questions, concerns, ideas, or comments, please let me know and if I don't know the answer I will find someone who does.

I hope to see you at these awesome conferences coming to a town near you. I will be at all of them and would love for you to come and introduce yourself to me so I can personally thank you for your dedication to our gifted students.

Sincerely,

Nancy Thomas  
KGTC President