

Downingtown Area Gifted Education Network

Monthly Meeting

September 19th, 2016

Downingtown Area Gifted Education

- Downingtowngifted.org
- downingtowngifted@gmail.com
- [facebook.com/groups/downingtowngifted](https://www.facebook.com/groups/downingtowngifted) (must request to join)
- Founded in 2010 as a Pennsylvania Association for Gifted Education affiliate chapter
 - Exists to educate parents with regards to gifted education and gifted support services to parents in the DASD area, and to work collaboratively with the Downingtown Area School district
 - Board members: Deanie Gauntlett, President
Sharon Gill, Vice President
Ryan Walter, Treasurer
Amy Henry, Secretary

Carrie Dickmann, Special Education Supervisor over Gifted Education
cdickmann@dasd.org

What is Gifted? Why are we here?

In the state of Pennsylvania, there are several laws that govern education. Chapter 16 is the law that governs gifted support services.

Chapter 16 defines gifted:

- In summary, an IQ of 130 or above (can be weighted) and meets multiple criteria (section 16.21)
- You are here most likely because your child meets the definition of gifted as per state law, or maybe you are curious if your child meets the definition of gifted

2 Sides to Gifted

The legal definition of gifted from the state of PA

- IQ of a 130 or above, can be weighted, as mentioned
- A GIEP (Gifted Individualized Education Plan) is necessary when your child is identified gifted and is in need of specially designed instruction (that is, your child needs something more than the regular ed classroom and curriculum can offer). They must be offered enrichment, acceleration, or a combination of both.

Giftedness as social topic

- Gifted individuals, especially children, have social emotional needs that are different
 - Next Monthly Meeting will cover Social/Emotional needs of gifted
- Parenting – because of their unique academic and social/emotional needs, there are resources for parents like Hoagies, etc.

Parenting Resources

- Hoagies Gifted Education Page (Hoagiesgifted.org)
- On Facebook: Hoagies' Gifted Education Page
- Social Emotional Needs of the Gifted (sengifted.org)
- Pennsylvania Association for Gifted Education (giftedpage.org)
- Davidson's Institute (davidsongifted.org)

Who's who in Gifted Support Services

Dr. Lou Chance

- Director of Pupil Services (reports to Superintendent)

Ms. Carrie Dickmann, Special Education Supervisor over Gifted Education (among other things)

- Reports to Dr. Chance

Gifted Support Teachers

Principals

Regular education teachers

Outside of DASD:

- Chester County Intermediate Unit (cciu.org)
 - Gifted Liaison, Patricia Egner (patriciae@cciu.org)
- Downingtown Area Gifted Education Network (downingtowngifted.org)
- Pennsylvania Department of Education (education.pa.gov, search gifted, Dr. Curl)
- Pennsylvania Association for Gifted Education (runs a hotline for parents, giftedpage.org)

A Snapshot of the GIEP

If your child is identified gifted, and is in need of specially designed instruction, they are given an Gifted Individualized Education Plan.

- A GIEP is the legal document that the GIEP team produces after meeting annually once a year (additional GIEP meetings can be called as necessary by members of the GIEP team).
- A GIEP is a team usually made up of:
 - Regular Ed Teacher
 - Gifted Teacher
 - Principal
 - Parent

What is in a GIEP?

A GIEP has a structure that consists of:

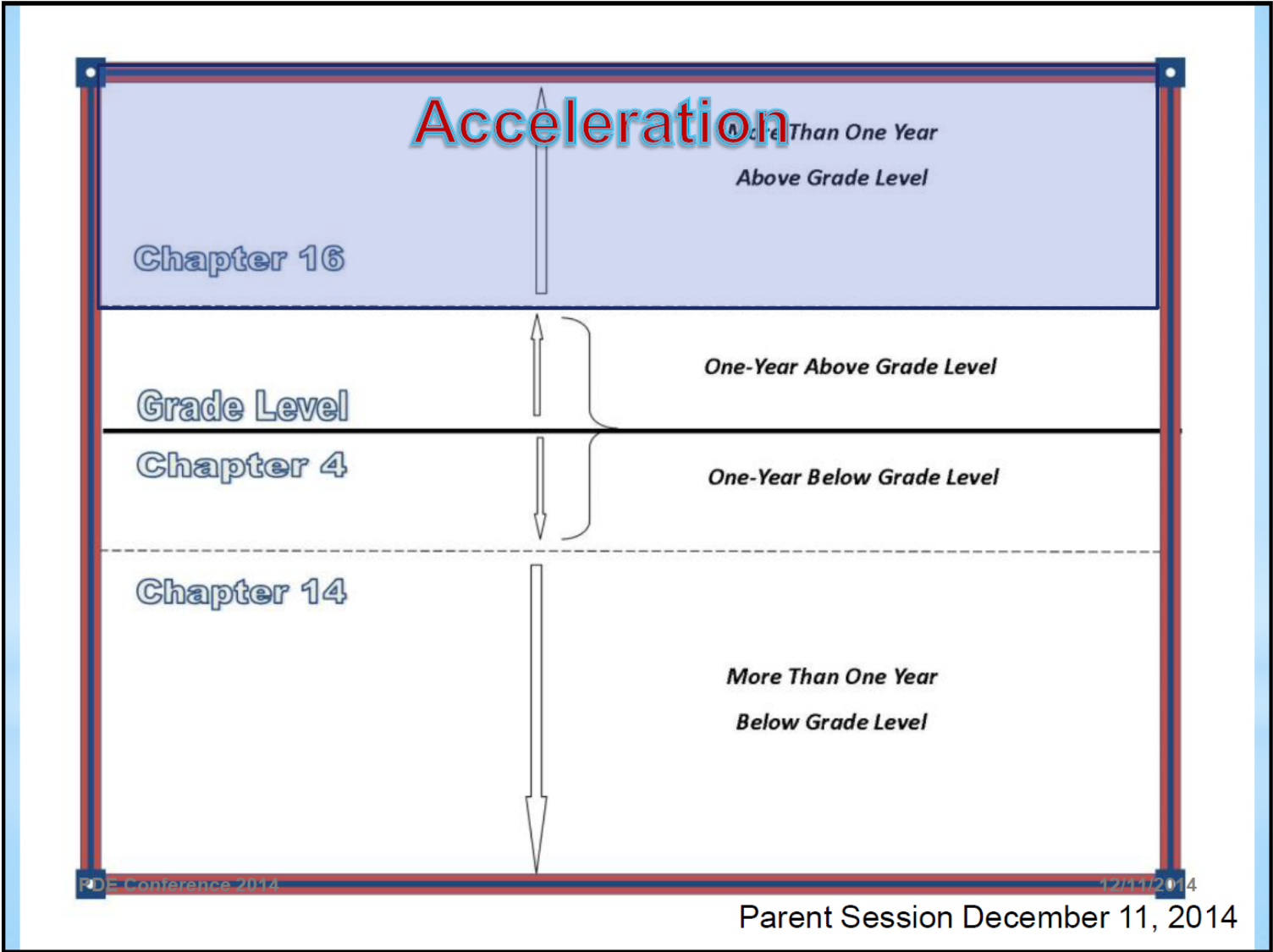
- Present Levels of Educational Performance (grades, test data, parent input)- where the child is now
- Annual Goals – when and where the child should go
- Short term Objectives- when and where child should go
- Specially Designed Instruction – how they are going to get there

A GIEP offers...

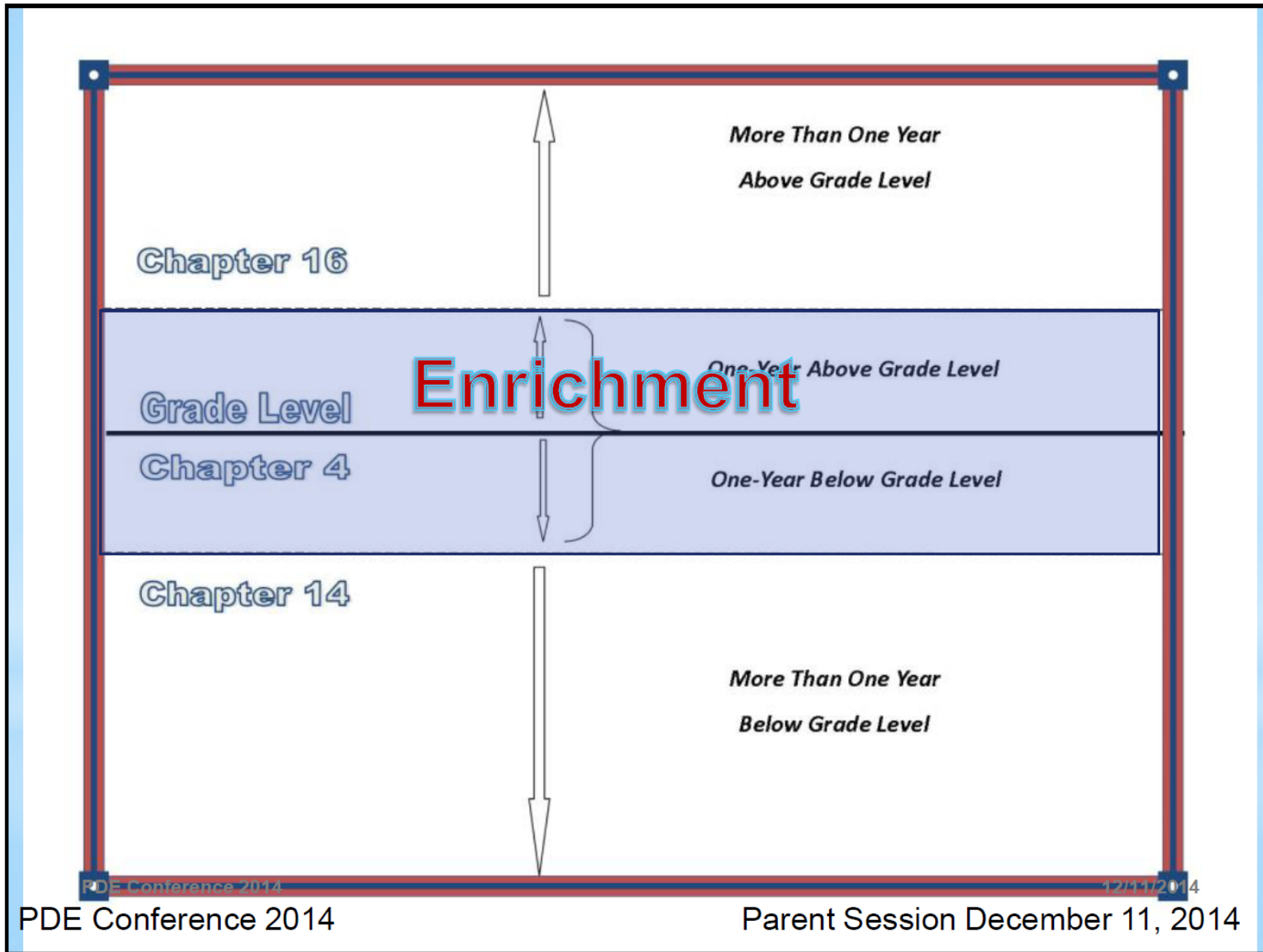
Chapter 16 says a child that is identified gifted and is in need of specially designed instruction, should be offered enrichment, acceleration, or a combination of both in their area of strength.

How is that determined? By a review of the present level of educational placement (PLEP).

- Acceleration is advancing through the curriculum at a rapid pace (Conklin & Freil, 2007)
- Enrichment is providing activities at a greater depth and/or breadth to the topic they are studying. These activities are usually more complex (Conklin & Friel, 2007)



Source: Tanya Morret, Statewide Gifted Liaison
Strength-Based GIEP Webinar



Source: Tanya Morret, Statewide Gifted Liaison, Strength-Based GIEP Webinar

PLEP

PLEP, or Present Levels of Educational Placement, helps the GIEP determine where your child is at with respect to the curriculum. It can help answer what is appropriate for your child - acceleration, enrichment, or a combination of both. PLEP should contain several types of assessment data, as well as parent and teacher input.

Types of Data

Summative -After instruction <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Usually on grade level• Grades from the curriculum such as chapter tests, exams• PSSAs	Formative -During Instruction <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Usually on grade level• Teacher and Parent reports• Classwork and homework
Benchmark -During Instruction <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Usually on or above grade level• AIMSweb, Study Island, DIBELS, Fountas & Pinnell• PVAAS projection	Diagnostic -Prior to instruction <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Usually on or above grade level• Classroom Diagnostic Tools• Fountas & Pinnell• Informal Reading Inventory

Source: Tanya Morret, Statewide Gifted Liaison, Data Webinar

Notes about GIEPs

They are individualized to your child's strengths. If you have an twice-exceptional child (that is, a child with a learning disability and is also identified gifted), it is a IEP with goals that address giftedness.

GIEPs are for strengths only, and currently only cover academic subjects like ELA and Math.

You have a role besides the parent input form. The team needs your input.

You are asked to sign off on the NORA (Notice of Recommended Assignment).

- The new NORA specifically spells out why the GIEP team is recommending what they are

Collaboration is Key!

- If you have questions, email your teacher, and gifted teacher. You may chose to add in the principal. If for some reason, you do not feel you are understanding the answers, you may contact Carrie Dickmann. DAGEN is also a resource.

There are due dates for everything!

- Per chapter 16, there are specific amount of school calendar days that have to be followed for parental notifications, etc.

It is possible to have a child identified gifted, but not be in need of a GIEP

More about GIEPs

- You should receive a Parental Notice of Rights which outlines the procedure to follow if you do not agree with the GIEP
- Office of Dispute Resolution (odr-pa.org)
- Strength-Based GIEP Webinar and Data Webinars by Tanya Morret, Statewide Gifted Liaison
- Located at: downingtowntalented.org/webinars