



Dear 7th and 8th Grade Pre-AP Families,

Welcome to the 2017-2018 school year! My name is Traci Chudy, and I am the G/T Seminar instructor for 7th, 8th, and 9th grade. I am excited to be given the opportunity to support your students this year as they challenge themselves to rigorous course work and as they face the challenges of junior high.

I have 11 years of experience as a G/T specialist with the Cabot School District. I've watched the K-12 G/T program grow, and I am thrilled to be a part of it at the secondary level.

I have also experienced my own two children moving through the Pre-AP and AP track at the junior high and high school, so I understand as a parent what it takes to help our students find success.

Junior High G/T Seminar is designed to support Pre-AP students in grades 7-9. Any student who is enrolled in at least one Pre-AP course receives monthly Gifted and Talented services through G/T Seminar. The course includes preparation for high-stakes exams, counseling for scheduling through the Pre-AP and AP course sequence, and activities designed to promote creative and critical thinking. Another focus of the course is to address the stresses and pressures often felt by Pre-AP students and to help them develop the skills necessary for success both personally and academically.

Non-Negotiable Skills by Cambridge is a test prep book that is utilized throughout the 7th and 8th grade seminars to guide instruction in the G/T classroom and to facilitate at-home, independent practice. Information provided in the book will help prepare your student for high-stakes, college entrance exams such as the PSAT, SAT, and ACT. While a class set is provided for students to use during scheduled G/T Seminar meetings, I highly recommended that each student purchase his/her own copy to utilize at home.

For all 7th grade and 8th grade students who have not already purchased a book and would like to do so, the date to purchase the book will be during your child's October G/T Seminar meeting. (JHN Oct 10-14; JHS Oct 24-28) The cost of the book is \$15, and checks should be made payable to Cabot Public Schools (a receipt will be provided). If you are financially unable to purchase the book but would like your child to have a copy to practice at home, please contact Melissa Elliott, Coordinator of Gifted & AP Programs, at melissa.elliott@cps.k12.ar.us.

It is important to me that parents are as informed as possible. Therefore, I will be utilizing emails, texts and our website to communicate. You may choose to access as many of these as you would like.

Email: I will email a newsletter several times throughout the year. The newsletter will contain information about what we are covering in G/T seminars, as well as important dates and helpful information. If you wish to be added to the listserv to receive updates and assignments, please give your student's name, school and grade level in ONE of the following ways:

-email me at traci.chudy@cps.k12.ar.us

-complete and return the form on the bottom portion of this letter

Text: I will also text a message through "REMIND" to students and parents with scheduling and other information. If you would like to receive a short text with reminders and information, please text the appropriate code to 81010:

CFA- text: @cfagt JHS 7th- text: @cjhs7 JHS 8th- text: @cjhs8

JHN 7th- text: @cjhn7 JHN 8th- text: @cjhn8

Website: Lastly, I will post GT dates and other helpful information on the junior high GT website: mrschudy.weebly.com

I am here as a support system for your child, but I am also here to support you, the parents. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to call or email me. I look forward to working with you and your student this year!

Traci Chudy

GT Specialist Grades 7-9

Junior High South (501) 743-3573

Junior High North (501) 743-3572

Freshman Academy (501) 743-3576

Please complete and return the information below *if you do not have access to a computer or if you are unable to send the information via email or on the website.*

Please Print

Student Name: _____

School: _____

Grade Level: _____

Parent/Guardian Name(s): _____

What is the best way to reach you and/or get important information to you?

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Other: _____