



## Quarterly Parent Meeting

Our third quarterly parent meeting is **Wednesday, February 23, 2022 from 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.** [LINK:](#)  
**Recording from parent night- November 11, 2021** [LINK](#)



## Update on the WESD Parent Gifted Committee

### Would you like to be involved?

A group of WESD parents have begun to meet virtually and discuss plans for a gifted parent group. They are currently working on goals and mission statement, talking about what kind of programs they would like for their gifted students, and how to support new parents and families in gifted education. They are still looking for more parents and family members who are interested in contributing to the gifted parent group. [rowe.vanmeter@wesdschools.org](mailto:rowe.vanmeter@wesdschools.org) to be connected with the WESD parent group.

## Gifted Testing:



Our Spring Gifted Testing Window will occur from March 1-April 8. Each school will have their own test dates in this window. If you have questions please contact your schools' gifted teacher or the gifted coordinator at [rowe.vanmeter@wesdschools.org](mailto:rowe.vanmeter@wesdschools.org).

If you would like to refer a child for testing, talk to the gifted teacher on your campus or complete the screening form and permission located on the [Gifted Services webpage](#).

## The Power of Play

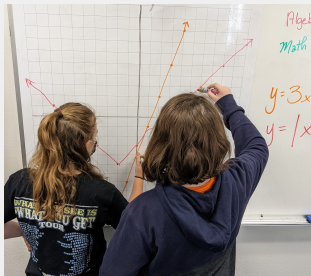
In December, Otto Siegle, Genius Coach, worked with the gifted teachers to remind them of “The Power of Play.” The teachers learned to toss and catch sticks, use flowing arms bands, and just have fun overall with toys. Play is children’s first language. It helps them develop confidence, think outside the box, and feel joy. Mr. Siegle reminded us, as adults, we sometimes get caught up in our everyday responsibilities and forget to play. Try taking some time out of your schedule soon to just play with your child or children and see how it feels.



## Gifted Students Benefit From Grants

A number of gifted teachers in our district were awarded grants last year to help them enrich the education of our gifted students.

\***Monica Dunham**(Cholla Middle School) received an APS “Supply My Class”teacher award of \$500. She purchased a Magnetic Coordinate Grid, a magnetic circle for Geometry and trigonometry manipulatives.



\* **Robin Blank** (Sahuaro/ Sweetwater) and **Heather Davis** (Maryland/ Lakeview) received grants from the Arizona Council of Economic Education for their gifted classes to participate in the “Stock Market Game.” Students are given a fictional \$100,000 to invest in stocks and learn about economics, investing, and personal finance.

\***Patti Ahlman** (John Jacobs) received a mini-grant from Alpha Epsilon (ADK) for the purchase of Rubik’s cubes. The 4th-6th graders developed perseverance and grit while learning the algorithms needed to solve the cubes.

\* **Shirit Levine** received the Washington Education Foundation Grant. She used the money to buy interesting and challenging books for her classroom’s SEM-R unit.

\***Sharon Michael** (Mountain View) received a \$5,000 grant and 500 tickets from the AZ Diamondbacks, which she used for 3D printer materials and flexible seating for her class.

# Great Gifted Happenings December 2021



**Civil Engineering- Bridges at Chaparral**



**Digital Escape Rooms at Sunnyslope**

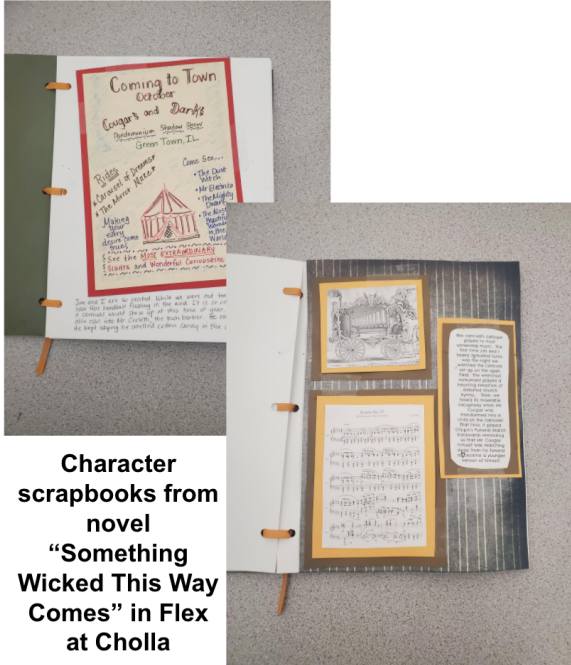


**UV "Sun Shelters"**

**Exploring ocean zones at Roadrunner**



**Gingerbread "Structures" at Lakeview**

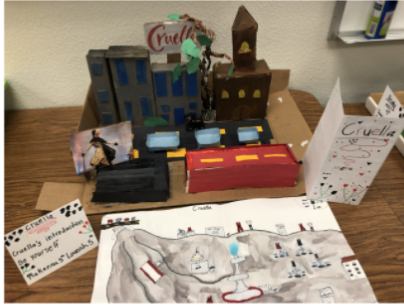
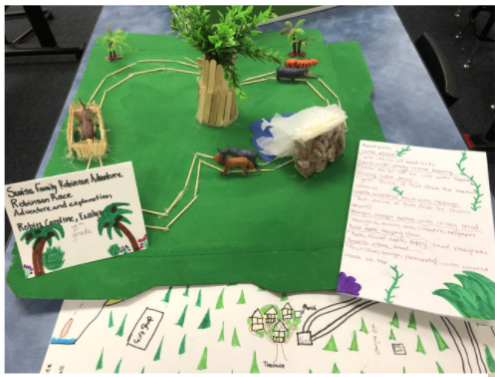


**Character scrapbooks from novel "Something Wicked This Way Comes" in Flex at Cholla**



**Santa's workshop- Flex at Cholla Middle School**





## Imagineering Projects at Orangewood