

# PGE

PARENTS FOR GIFTED EDUCATION

## Gifted and CAPA Student Directory Project

### What is PGE?

- ~ A non-profit organization of parents & community members.
- ~ Members support and advocate for gifted education & creative arts programs in Rockford

### PGE's Activities

- Monthly meetings including speakers on gifted education
- Forums on special topics for the gifted program
- Advocacy for the gifted program at the local, state and national level
- Scholarships for seniors at Auburn through the Ruth Harris Scholarship Fund
- Web-site with information helpful for parents of gifted students
- Newsletter on events and subjects of the gifted and CAPA program
- Directory of students, parents and teachers in the gifted and CAPA program
- Parent support to the gifted office in promotion, info sessions and testing
- Teacher appreciation event for the teachers in the gifted and CAPA program
- Parent Liaison program to help work with teachers on issues in the program
- Annual trip to Springfield (including students) to meet with legislators

### Why The Directory?

The directory helps parents, teachers, and students keep in touch with each other.

The directory is our only fund raiser of the year and supports our efforts to keep the gifted program strong.

### Why do we advocate for the Gifted Program?

The need for special education programs for academically gifted and creative arts students is often discounted and misunderstood by the community and educators and even by parents and teachers new to the program. There is much research on the need for special educational programs for these students which has not translated into strong public recognition and support for programs developed for the special educational needs of the academically talented.

Because of these misunderstandings, supporters and parents for “gifted” students have always needed to make a special effort to keep programs. This is true in Illinois where the budget for gifted education was eliminated several years ago and, following this, many resources for gifted education were cut in the Rockford Public Schools.

Fortunately visionaries in Rockford in the early 80's saw this need. Their leadership and hard work has led to Rockford having one of the best gifted programs in Illinois. Our mission is to advocate for the program and support the educators and administrators who make the program strong.

If you would happen to lose this form, you can get another on our web-site. The web address is:

**[www.PGE205.org](http://www.PGE205.org)**