



Feb. 9, 2012

Department: NAGC News to Note Workgroup Convenes at NAGC

Concerns that the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) do not meet the needs of highly able learners prompted 10 NAGC volunteers to spend the weekend of February 3-5 focused on how to make appropriate modifications for gifted and talented students. The group of leaders, with special expertise in mathematics and English Language Arts, spent about 20 hours drafting the beginning of what will be two separate booklets for teachers on how they can modify the common core state standards (CCSS) in mathematics and English Language Arts for high ability and gifted students.

The practical books will address how to differentiate the standards and include specific examples at key grade levels for each strand of standards. The sections on professional development will urge gifted education professionals to take leadership roles in working with their schools and districts to emphasize the evidence-based differentiation practices that, as part of a professional development plan, would enable general and special education teachers to adapt, modify, or replace curriculum in the CCSS framework based on the needs of the individual learner.

Also helpful to gifted education coordinators and math and language arts curriculum and instruction leaders, the books will be ready for release at NAGC's 59th Convention in Denver.

The participants and members of the NAGC Professional Standards Committee who have content expertise in one or both of the CCSS areas, and/or who were part of a small group in New Orleans in November 2011 that developed the white paper on the CCSS that has been posted on the [NAGC website](#):

- Joyce VanTassel-Baska, College of William & Mary (emeritus)
- Linda Sheffield, Northern Kentucky University (emeritus)
- Susan Johnsen, Baylor University
- Cheryll Adams, Ball State University

- Todd Kettler, Gifted Education Coordinator, Koppell School District
- Alicia Cotabish, University of Arkansas at Little Rock
- Debra Troxclair, Lamar University
- Chrystyna Mursky, Gifted Education Consultant, Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction
- Jennifer Jolly, Louisiana State University
- Claire Hughes, College of Coastal Georgia



Around the table, beginning at the left:

Jennifer Jolly, Todd Kettler, Cheryll Adams, Alicia Cotabish, Joyce VanTassel-Baska (standing), Susan Johnsen, Jane Clarenbach, NAGC (standing), Chrystyna Mursky, Deb Troxclair, Claire Hughes, Linda Sheffield