



## Parent Presentation: A Path to A Better GIEP Meeting

May 15, 2017 at 6:30 PM

Manheim Township Public Library, Lancaster, PA

For many parents, the GIEP meeting can be intimidating. The document is full of acronyms, numbers, and educational jargon. All too often, there isn't time to read the GIEP, process it thoroughly, and ask questions before being asked to sign to agree and sign the NORA.

You are left with questions:

*How do I know this plan will truly meet my child's needs? What data should I look for and how do I even decipher it? Is gifted education really just a pull-out class once or twice a cycle? If I don't want a grade skip, what else can I ask for? Is there a better way?*

Learn how to use the GIEP process to help you to better advocate for your child. Marilyn Thomas and Linda Deal will cover the basics of Gifted Individualized Education Plans before delving into your burning questions.

School-age children are invited to play board games in the Story Silo during the presentation.

Registration is requested but not required. Email [lcpagepresident@gmail.com](mailto:lcpagepresident@gmail.com) with your name, number of adults attending number and ages of children attending, and any questions you have for our presenters or complete the brief form at <https://goo.gl/forms/9yT4BjLQ7VmYBZHA2>

**Marilyn Thomas** is a parent of gifted children and has been involved in education advocacy for over 20 years. She was president of LC PAGE for 6 years and co-founded the advocacy group Hempfield Partners for Exceptional Children (HPEC). She has presented locally at Millersville University graduate and undergraduate programs, and at State and National conferences. She has been a peer monitor for Ch. 14 compliance with the PA Bureau of Special Education. In 2008, she received the PAGE Parent of the Year award. She considers herself a "reluctant expert" as her interest in twice-exceptionality was developed from a need to advocate for her own children.

**Linda Deal** has been an advocate for gifted students in a variety of formats for over 35 years. As an educator, she earned her masters in Gifted Education from Millersville University in 1991 and taught as an adjunct professor in that program. She worked with elementary gifted students and accelerated math students in the Penn Manor School District for over 25 years and has served on the ODR Stakeholder Panel. In 2005, she received the Educator of the Year Award from PAGE. Her article on "NCTM Principles and Standards for Mathematically Talented Students," was published in *Gifted Child Today*, in the Summer of 2010 and published a book in 2005 called *Boredom Solutions*. She currently serves as Legislative Liaison for PAGE and is the past president.