

Dear Member -

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Dear Member:

We are pleased to announce very exciting news! The board of directors of the American Association for Gifted Children has approved a consolidation with SENG (Supporting the Emotional Needs of the Gifted), a national program based at Wright State Universtiy in Dayton, Ohio. This merger will create a more dynamic organization better able to serve the needs of the gifted.

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Why has the Association taken this step?

o The directors realized that the AAGC is an all-volunteer organization, whose leaders have had to fit Association business in with other, full-time business commitments. In SENG, the Association has found strong, day-to-day leadership for internal management and external relations. The current head of SENG, Dr. Jim Webb, will serve as the president and chief executive officer of the combined group; I have agreed to chair the interim board of directors.

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o The directors also realized that the AAGC has a loyal membership. Only with a more substantial organizational infrastructure--staff, membership/mailling list, communications vehicles, etc.--can we continue to serve and motivate these members. SENG offers that.

o The members of our board have always been dedicated, talented people, known for their contributions to understanding and developing the talents of young people. A national advisory committee, made up of distinguished men and women in business, government, and academia, such as envisioned by SENG will increase the visibility and influence of our new organization.

o Finally, in spite of the generosity of ~~many~~ benefactors, we have always operated on a very modest budget, which will not support the degree of effort needed to sustain major new programs. With SENG's resources, we can realize our goals.

The combination of AAGC and SENG will make a very dynamic match with great synergy and high potential for the future. Most particularly, gifted children will be better served.

How does this effect you?

o You are now a member of the combined organization, AAGC/SENG. You need not send any money until such time as you would routinely renew your dues.

o You can expect to receive more for the support you give the combined organization. The board is now at work planning a national conference on the social and emotional needs of the gifted to be held in August. New publications are being written. You'll receive news on new member benefits

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in the coming months.

o You'll have more of a chance to become involved in meaningful work for the gifted. AAGC/SENG will continue to rely on the participation of volunteer members and directors; its increased size and scope will mean more opportunities for you to make a difference.

• We have much work ahead of us, about which we will keep you informed. We hope that we can count on your continued support and involvement.

Sincerely,

Anne E. Impellizzeri

The history and reputation of AAGC is impressive, but