



August 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Mrs. Mindy Zellner has served as the Gifted Coordinator since 2013, but recently accepted the position as the new principal of Maple Dale Elementary School so will no longer serve as the district Gifted Coordinator. Mrs. Kelly Wegener, who has served as the Director of Curriculum and Instruction, has taken on the role of Assistant Superintendent for Sycamore. With these changes, the district will take a close look at the role of Gifted Coordinator to determine how this role can be calibrated to meet the needs of our gifted learners across multiple grade levels and content areas. Sycamore is committed to continuing to provide a service model with a continuum of gifted support to gifted identified students in Kindergarten through grade 12.

To accomplish this, Sycamore Community Schools will contract with a Gifted Consultant from Hamilton County Educational Services Center for the 2021-2022 school year to serve as the Gifted Coordinator for the district. Ms. Jamie Jackson will partner with Mrs. Becky Tompkins, Sycamore's Director of Curriculum and Instruction, to maintain the fidelity of our K-12 gifted services model. Mrs. Tompkins has previous experience with overseeing Gifted processes and procedures as well as working with Gifted Consultants from Hamilton County Educational Services.

This process will allow us to better understand the intricacies of our needs and put in place a plan moving forward that will continue the excellence of Sycamore Community Schools' gifted programming. Mrs. Tompkins and Ms. Jackson will collaborate with our parent-led Gifted Education Advocacy Resources (GEAR) board to solicit feedback regarding the future plan. I want to extend a special thank you to our GEAR parent advisory group for their support and continued partnership during this transition and process.

If you have questions, feel free to contact Ms. Jackson at jacksonja@sycamoreschools.org or Mrs. Tompkins at tompkinsb@sycamoreschools.org. For more information regarding Ohio's Gifted Operating Standards, go to [Ohio's Gifted Operating Standards](#) which can be found on the Ohio Department of Education website.

Kelly Wegener
Assistant Superintendent