

**Susan Michelle Swain**

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**Current Position:** Director, Gifted and Advanced Academic Services, Round Rock Independent School District, Round Rock, TX – July 2004 to present

- Oversee coordination of gifted programming for large suburban district, including identification and services, staff development, collaboration with TAG parent organization, and support of campus TAG specialists.
- Coordinate and support district advanced academic services including Pre-AP, Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate, Virtual Learning, Dual Credit, Dual Enrollment, Duke Talent Search, Credit by Exam, and College Board Assessments (PSAT 8/9, PSAT/NMSQT, School Day SAT).
- Oversee coordination of out of school options (Math Pentathlon, Destination Imagination, Chess, robotics, and other enrichment programs and competitions).
- Organize, sponsor, and/or coordinate numerous events: Summer Enrichment Fair, Parent Advisory Council, College Board training, International Baccalaureate Workshops, Annual District TAG Conference, Annual District PreAP/AP Conference, Summer TAG Camp, and TAG Math Camp.

**Career Highlights**

- 2015 Gifted Coordinator Award, National Association for Gifted Children
- 2013 State Administrator of the Gifted Award, Texas Association for the Gifted and Talented/Texas Academy of Math and Science
- 2013 Hill Country Administrator of the Gifted Award, Texas Association for the Gifted and Talented
- 2011 TAGT President
- 2001 Region 13 Advocate of the Year, Texas Association for the Gifted and Talented
- 1999-2000 Area V Semi-Finalist, Austin ISD Teacher of the Year
- 1999-2000 Hart Elementary, Teacher of the Year

**Career History**

- Concordia University Department of Education Guest Lecturer for Principal Preparation, 2008-2013
- University of Texas Department of Education Guest Lecturer for Special Populations, 2004-2013
- Program Facilitator, Advanced Academic Services, Austin Independent School District, August 2000 – June 2004
- Teacher, Hart Elementary, Austin Independent School District, August 1998 - August 2000
- Program Coordinator, Optional Extended Year Program, 1999
- Second Grade Trainer, National Instruments Elementary Robotics Program, 1999
- Teacher, Summer High Ability Program, Southwest Texas State University, 1998, 1999
- Teacher, Barrington Elementary, Austin Independent School District, August 1993- June 1998

**Education:**

- M.Ed., Curriculum and Instruction, Endorsement in Gifted & Talented, Texas State University, December 1997 (GPA: 4.0); Principalship Certification, June 2009
- B.S., Applied Learning and Development, Specialization in English, The University of Texas at Austin, December 1992

**NAGC Participation and Accomplishments**

- **Conventions:** Atlanta 2000, Cincinnati 2001, Denver 2002, St. Louis 2009, New Orleans 2011, Denver 2012, Indianapolis 2013, Baltimore 2014, Phoenix 2015, Orlando 2016, Charlotte 2017

- **Presentations**
  - **2017:** Duke TIP Implementation
  - **2014:** Fostering Parent and Community Engagement for Gifted Programming
  - **2013:** Flipping Over Socratic Seminars with TED Talks
  - **2002:** Creative Problem Solving with Primary Literature
  - **2002:** Creative Problem Solving, NAGC Creativity Conference, Austin, TX
- **Committee/Network/Affiliate Work**
  - Board of Directors – State Representative, Governance Committee, Finance Committee, 2012-2018
  - Leadership Development Committee Member, 2011-2012
  - Creativity Division Member, Secretary, 2000-2004

## Leadership and Advocacy Activities

- **District:**
  - Innovative Grant Committee
  - AP Council Chair
  - Dual Credit Council Chair
  - International Baccalaureate Council Chair
  - Texas Virtual School Network Council Chair
  - TAG/ELL Task Force Chair
  - College/Career Readiness Task Force Co-Chair
  - Round Rock TAG Association Board Liaison
  - Leadership Austin Kids Chair
  - District Advisory Council Member
  - Superintendent’s Teacher Advisory Council Member
  - Area Advisory Council Member
  - Campus Advisory Council Chair
  - Campus Coordinator, Gifted, Science
  - Vertical Team Leader
  - Grade Level Chair
  - Odyssey of the Mind Coach
  - Mentor Teacher
  - Science Task Force Member
- **Local**
  - Math Pentathlon Regional Advisory Board Member, 2001-2003
  - Destination Imagination Regional Board Member, Secretary, Regional Tournament Local Arrangements Chair (3x), 2000-2007
- **State**
  - Texas Association for the Gifted and Talented Board of Directors, Governmental Relations Committee, Coordinators Division Board Liaison, 2006 Conference Local Arrangements Committee Chair, First Vice President, President-Elect, 2011 President, Past President, 2003-2012
  - Texas Education Agency Commissioner’s Advisory Council on Advanced Academics, 2011, 2012
  - Texas International Baccalaureate Schools Board of Directors, Secretary, 2008-2012, 2013
  - Destination Imagination Texas State Tournament Local Arrangements Chair, 2008
  - Texas Council for Elementary Science Board Representative, 2000-2001
- **National**
  - College Board Assessment Redesign Ambassador, 2015
  - USDE Javits Grant Reviewer, 2005
  - USDE Technology Grant Reviewer, 1999

## Selected Presentations

Provide extensive campus, district, state, and national level staff development in a variety of areas: gifted foundation training, differentiation strategies, thinking skills, creativity, social and emotional needs of gifted, Socratic seminar, and college and career readiness.

- *Pathways of Promise for High School Gifted Students: Providing an Array of Service Options*, TAGT, 2017

- *Professional Development for Parents of Gifted Students*, TAGT, 2017
- *Duke TIP Implementation*, NAGC, 2017
- *Tips and Tools for Math Differentiation*, Pearland ISD, 2017
- *Assessment in the Differentiated Classroom*, Danbury ISD, 2017
- *Building a District Culture that Supports College Readiness*, AP Annual Conference, 2017
- *Grit, Mindset, and Motivation*, multiple districts, 2016-2017
- *Understanding and Teaching the Gifted Brain*, Region 3, 2016
- *Using TED Talks to Address Social and Emotional Needs*, TAGT, 2015
- *Fostering Collaboration Through a District AP Council and Creating a College Readiness in Middle School*, College Board SW Regional Forum, 2015
- *Flipping over Socratic Seminars Using TED Talks*, Texas ASCD and Texas ASCD Ignite, 2014, 2016
- *Fostering Collaboration Through a District AP Council*, College Board SW Regional Forum, 2014
- *The Art of Learning*, TASA/TASB Conference, 2013
- *Socratic Seminars*, multiple districts and education service centers, 2009-present
- *Ten Things Not to Say to Your Gifted Child*, TAGT Parent Conference, 2012
- *Helping Gifted Students Deal with Stress and Perfectionism*, TAGT 2011
- *Creativity and Instructional Strategies*, Northwest ISD, 2011
- *Curriculum Differentiation*, Northwest ISD, 2011
- *A Holistic Portrait: One District's Approach to Identification*, TAGT 2008, 2009
- *Underachievement; Stress and Perfectionism, Socratic Questioning*, TAGT, 2007, 2008
- *Gifted Foundation Training*, Hays ISD, 2008
- *Secondary Service Options*, TAGT Leadership Conference, 2007
- *Creating a College Going Culture*, Region XIII HS Summit, 2006
- *Tiered Assignments in Mathematics Instruction*, CAMT, 2006
- *Gifted Update*, Jarrell ISD, 2006, 2008
- *Theory of Overexcitabilities*, TAGT Parent Conference, 2006, 2009
- *Underachievement*, TAGT Parent Conference, 2005, 2006
- *Socratic Questioning*, Region 10, 2003, 2004, 2007, 2009
- *Gifted and Talented Administrator Update*, Region 10, 2002
- *Underachievement, Perfectionism, Tiered Assignments, Socratic Questioning*, TAGT, 2002
- *Socratic Questioning in the Kindergarten Classroom*, Region 2, 2002
- *Socratic Questioning and Creative Problem Solving*, San Marcos ISD, 2002
- *Kindergarten Differentiation Strategies*, Pflugerville ISD, 2002
- *Classroom Differentiation: Questioning and Tiered Assignment*, Pflugerville ISD, 2002
- *Creative Problem Solving*, NAGC Creativity Conference, Austin, TX, 2002
- *Differentiation for Gifted Kindergarteners in Science*, Pflugerville ISD, 2001
- *Classroom Projects that Work*, TAGT 2000, Pflugerville ISD 2001
- *DTEACH Summer Institute*, UT, June 1999
- *Gifted and Talented Institute*, Austin ISD, 1999-2004
- *Graphic Organizers*, CAST 1998, TAGT 1999, 2000
- *Design Technology and Engineering for Children*, International Tech. Ed. Association Conference, March, 1998
- *Gifted Girls and Science*, SWT, May, 1997
- *SWT Summer High Ability Program*, AAGT Parent Meeting, February, 1997
- *Modifying for the Gifted in the Accelerated Schools Model*, Gifted & Talented Conference, SWT, 1995