Providing for the Positive Psychological Development of Students with Gifts and Talents

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Classifying Psychological Issues

• Rate
  – High-Incidence Problems
    • Affect many gifted students
    • Requires systemic and localized solutions
  – Low-Incidence Problems
    • Affect your child and few, if any, others
    • Localized solutions
Classifying Psychological Issues

• Condition
  – *Situational*: owing to a set of facts, conditions, or events
  – *Episodic*: occurring occasionally, but irregularly
  – *Chronic*: persisting for a long time or constantly recurring
High-Incidence Psychological Issues of SWGT

• Affect many gifted students
  – Asynchronous development
  – Identity formation
  – Multipotentiality
  – Big-Fish-Little-Pond Effect
  – Difficulty in peer relations
  – Perfectionism
  – Anxiety

• Condition
  – Situational, episodic, chronic

• Requires systemic and localized solutions
Low-Incidence Psychological Issues of SWGT

• Affects relatively few children and adolescents
  – Multiple exceptionalities
  – Depression
  – Mental illness
  – Suicidal behavior
• Condition
  – Situational, episodic, chronic
• Localized, individualized solutions
## Providers of Varying Levels of Support

### Cross’s (2011) Continuum of Psychological Services

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*Cross’s (2011) Continuum of Psychological Services*
Providing for the Psychological and Emotional Well-Being of SWGT

- Requires a basic understanding of *typical* developmental patterns.
- Learn when and how SWGT are vulnerable, developmentally speaking.
- Monitor how the SWGT is affected by stress, pressure, rejection, setting events and so forth.
- Learn what are the SWGT’s passions.
Caring Adults Can Help

• By combining this knowledge, caring adults can help SWGT navigate the complicated waters of development into becoming a healthy, productive, talented adult.