

Northwest Arkansas Education Service

Cooperative

January – March 2015

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*Advocating Opportunities for Gifted and Talented Students to grow and shine,*

**ARKANSAS GEMS**

*Highlights*

*Throughout the 2014-2015 school year there are many opportunities for local Northwest Arkansas students to participate in a wide variety of academic competitions. In the fall of 2014 here at the NWAESC we did our part by managing 5 different scholastic events including: Math Day for 3rd & 4th grade GT students, Chess for 3rd – 8th grades, Quiz Bowl for 5th – 8th grade students, and the start of the ACE game season for high school students. When you add up the numbers of NWA school children who attended these fall contests the total is an impressive 750 participants. Other competitive opportunities were also attended, such as World Trade Expo, Stock Market Game, and Robotics.*

*Well, now that we have started the new year of 2015, NWA schools are entering the winter and spring season of scholastic academic contests. Many NWA students will be participating in Regional & State AGQBA tournaments and Regional and State OM tournaments. The NWAESC will host 2 more chess tournaments, 2 Science Olympiad Tournaments, and complete the ACE season of games including the final championship games.* Participation in academic challenges is a great way to prepare our NWA youth for self-discovery and competition. My recommendation for all our students is to be bold and find out that you can do!

Calendar

Jan. 15 ACE games 4 & 5 @ Fayetteville HS

Jan. 29 ACE games 6 & 7 @ Bentonville HS

Jan. 30 NWA GT Coordinators Meeting

Feb. 5 ACE games 8 & 9 @ Farmington

Feb. 7 AGQBA Jr. High Regionals @ Gravette

Feb. 12 ACE game 10 @ Life Way Christian

Feb. 17 / 19 ACE make-up game(s) if bad weather

Feb. 21 NWA Winter Chess @ Sonora MS

Feb. 23 ACE Championship @ Farmington

Feb. 25 – 27 AGATE Annual Conference in LR

Feb. 28 AGQBA Jr. High State Tournament

Mar. 7 OM Regional Tournament @ JBU

Mar. 14 AGQBA Sr. High Regionals @ Rogers HS

March 17 NWA GT Coordinators Meeting

March 17 Science Olympiad Planning Meeting

April and May have many academic contests scheduled for AGQBA, SO, OM, & Chess