

Posters celebrate ‘gifted education’

According to Margaux Curless and Grace Goulson, fifth-graders in Melanie Stivers’ Quest class at Athens-Chilesburg Elementary, “Giftedness is like a forest path” because a path keeps going and so does what we do with our gifts. Some people might wander off their path and lose their way, and some gifted students need to look for the right path for them.

These two students gave us a lot to think about giftedness.

Many other inspiring posters were submitted to the Gifted Talented Services Office to celebrate Gifted Education Week. We thank all the students who entered our contest.

Ryan Blood, a sixth-grader in Bonnie Mogan’s class in the Winburn Accelerated Cluster, compared gifted education to ice cream. He says it is rewarding and can be enjoyed by students of all ages, but sometimes it might give you a pain and a major case of “brain freeze.” Ryan likes the sweet taste of good grades.

Kyle Clark from Mogan’s class thinks gifted education is similar to riding a bike because at first you might fall over a lot and then you spend a lot of time learning the skills needed to balance, pedal and brake. In gifted class, he spends a lot of time learning the skills to help him think logically, manage his time productively and organize his work neatly. Eventually it feels natural, and you don’t remember a time when you couldn’t ride!

Benjamin Riddle and Parker Back from Athens-Chilesburg developed the idea “Gifted Education is Like the Future Happening Now.” One of their comparisons shows how having appropriate curriculum can project you into the future by studying ideas a year or more ahead.

The winning posters are on display outside our office, at 701 East Main St. in the IAKSS building, through February. All the students will get a certificate of recognition for taking the time to help us all understand more about being gifted and the need for gifted education. The students mentioned above also will receive a gift certificate to Joseph Beth Book Store.

Congratulations to all!