

References for Conference Call

Alert Program® and The Twice Exceptional Learner

Sherry Shellenberger, OTR/L, L. Dennis Higgins, Ed.D., and Elizabeth Nielsen Ph.D.

September 4, 2013

The following resources are listed in the order (approximate) that they were mentioned in the Conference Call. Please note that some of the resources are no longer available. As the internet continues to evolve, we cannot control access to the web pages or blog posts of others. We hope that if a specific resource is unavailable, you'll be able to find something similar using the unavailable titles as keywords in an internet search.

Books:

- [Take Five: Staying Alert at Home and at School](#)
- [Test Drive: Introducing the Alert Program® through Song](#)
- Autonomous Learner Model for the Gifted and Talented by George T. Betts – no longer available

Resources recommended by Dennis & Elizabeth:

- [Reflections of a Teacher of 2e Students](#) (an article that Dennis was invited to write that reflected on his years of teaching twice-exceptional children)
- NEA Document – no longer available
- [Uniquely Gifted: Identifying and Meeting the Needs of the Twice-Exceptional Student](#) (one of the early books about twice-exceptional children. Both Elizabeth and Dennis have chapters in this book)
- [A Chance to Read](#) (a PBS special that showcased Dennis's program at Bellehaven Elementary School in Albuquerque. Elizabeth has a major role in this film)
- An article by Dennis and Elizabeth in 2005 in Teaching Exceptional Children – no longer available

Other resources:

- 2e Twice Exceptional Newsletter with focus on OT – no longer available
- ["Understanding How the Gifted and Twice Exceptional Children can Benefit from OT"](#)
- ["OT and Twice Exceptional Children"](#)
- [OT and the 2e Child: A Case Study](#)

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About L. Dennis Higgins & Elizabeth Nielsen:

L. Dennis Higgins, Ed.D.

L. Dennis Higgins worked directly with students who are officially identified as twice-exceptional by the Albuquerque Public School System from 1988 until his retirement in 2010. He has authored articles and book chapters concerning twice-exceptional children. He has been a

keynote speaker at national and international conferences. He was a consultant to the National Education Association's and the National Association for Gifted Children's publication *The Twice-Exceptional Dilemma*, a featured educator on the PBS Special *Reading Rockets: A Chance to Read*, and a recipient of the New Mexico Golden Apple Award. He currently serves on the National Association for Gifted Children's "Steering Committee for a Twice-Exceptional Community of Practice." Upon his retirement, he was recognized by the New Mexico House of Representatives on the floor of the State Capital in Santa Fe, NM for his contributions to education in New Mexico.

M. Elizabeth Nielsen, Ph.D.

M. Elizabeth Nielsen was an Associate Professor of Special Education at the University of New Mexico until her retirement in 2012. She served as a UNM College of Education Assistant Dean for Research and is the recipient of the Burlington Foundation Faculty Achievement Award for Excellence in Teaching. She was the principal investigator for two university and public school district collaborative projects focused on gifted students with disabilities. These research initiatives were funded by the U.S. Department of Education as part of the Jacob K. Javits Gifted and Talented Grants. She has published articles and textbook chapters regarding these twice-exceptional students and has been a keynote speaker at national and international conferences. She currently serves on the National Association for Gifted Children's "Steering Committee for a Twice-Exceptional Community of Practice." Her Ph.D. is in Educational Psychology from Purdue University.

Common Sense Disclaimer

As responsible adults, we must use common sense when supporting others.

If you are unsure of something that has been mentioned here, have questions, or just don't have a good feeling about trying something, trust your judgment and don't do it! I encourage you to seek help from a trained professional (often an OT in your area) or you can purchase consultation time with us here at TWI. You deserve support!

To learn more about additional distance learning options, research, articles or Alert Program® books, games, and songs go to:

www.AlertProgram.com