

## COUNCIL GAMbit ARTICLES

September 1, 2014

### GAMBIT ARTICLES - QUARTERLY

#### WRITING

Responsibility for writing GAMbit articles rests with Council members assigned to the task. The Council Chair makes those assignments. Articles are submitted at least one week prior to GAMbit's deadline for their quarterly publication.

#### REVIEW

At least two weeks prior to GAMbit's publication deadline, articles are submitted to the Council Chair and DESE's Director of Gifted Education Programs for review.

#### SUBMISSION

The finalized article is submitted via email to GAMbit by the Council Chair or designee. Current address for newsletter: [sheila\\_bonner@idschools.org](mailto:sheila_bonner@idschools.org)

#### SAMPLE

See article by Beth Winton – April 20, 2014

## SAMPLE GAMbit ARTICLE

Beth Winton  
April 20, 2014

Update from the NEW Advisory Council on the Education of Gifted and Talented Children

As you read in the last issue of the GAMbit, there is a new state-wide advisory council focusing solely on the needs of gifted and talented children. The Council was established by the state legislature in 2013 and consists of seven members nominated by the Commissioner of Education. According to Section 161.249 of the state statute, the Council is to provide advice “regarding all rules and policies to be adopted by the state board of education relating to the education of gifted and talented children.”

The Council convened its second meeting in March and is looking forward to, for the first time in Missouri’s history, making recommendations to the Commissioner and State Board of Education on issues central to the appropriate education of a gifted child. One of our first decisions included working closely with GAM and keeping GAM members apprised of the Council’s progress through a standing article in the GAMbit. These initial articles will also introduce you to the Council’s members. Our chairperson, Dr. Linda Smith, wrote the first installment, and now it’s my turn. Please allow me to introduce myself.

I have worked in gifted education for my entire professional career. I graduated with honors from the University of Florida in 1992 with a Bachelor’s degree in Education, specializations in gifted education and psychology. I earned my Master’s degree from the University of Missouri-Columbia in 1999 with an emphasis in gifted education. I earned National Board Certification in November, 2002 and renewed it in 2012. I earned my PhD from MU in May 2013 in Educational Administration. I was the Supervisor of Gifted Education for the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education from 1994 - 1999, taught gifted education one year in the Jefferson City Public Schools, and this will be my 15th year teaching gifted education in the Columbia Public Schools. I have taught gifted students from Kindergarten through high school and I am passionately invested in providing appropriate educational opportunities for gifted students in our state.

The next meeting of the Council will be in May in Jefferson City. At that meeting, we hope to finalize language establishing the Council’s main focus, delineate the actions to be taken on behalf of gifted children, and establish parameters for a web site so the public can access minutes and other work products of the Council. The Council aims to provide advice on best practices to the Commissioner and the State Board members regarding the education of gifted students. I think I can speak for all Council members when I say we trust our efforts will honor gifted students and the work of every teacher of gifted students throughout Missouri.

Sincerely, Beth Joelle Winton, PhD, NBCT

### COUNCIL CONTACT INFORMATION

Council Chairperson  
c/o David Welch, Director of Gifted Education Programs  
205 Jefferson Street  
Jefferson City, MO 65102  
[David.welch@dese.mo.gov](mailto:David.welch@dese.mo.gov)  
573-751-7754 Phone  
573-526-6698 Fax