



MINUTES

ADVISORY COUNCIL ON THE EDUCATION OF GIFTED AND TALENTED CHILDREN

Thursday, October 16, 2014

Meeting 5

Venue:

Phelps Center for Gifted Education
 934 South Kimbrough
 Springfield, MO 65806

TOPIC	NOTES
Members Present	Sally Holt, Beth Winton, Lenae Lazzelle, Linda Smith, Robin Lady, Steven Coxon Department Liaison - David Welch
Members Absent	Nancy Pate
I. Call to Order	
Call to Order	Chairwoman Linda Smith called the meeting of the Advisory Council on the Education of Gifted and Talented Children to order at 12:04 p.m. on Thursday, October 16, 2014.
Approve October 16 Agenda	Motion was made by Dr. Robin Lady and seconded by Dr. Beth Winton to approve the agenda of the October 16, 2014 meeting, as presented. Motion carried. (Yes: 6, No: 0)
Approve August 4 Minutes	It was moved by Dr. Beth Winton and seconded by Dr. Robin Lady to approve the minutes of the August 4, 2014 meeting, as presented. Motion carried. (Yes: 5, No: 0, Dr. Steven Coxon abstained)
Chair Comments	<p>Dr. Linda Smith and all members in turn introduced themselves so that the newest member of the Council, Dr. Steven Coxon, could get to know all of the members. Dr. Coxon then introduced himself and his background in gifted education. Dr. Coxon is a graduate of Virginia Tech University and was Dr. Joyce VanTassel-Baska's last graduate student. He has been at Maryville University in St. Louis for five years. He is an Assistant Professor of Gifted Education and also works with Lego and Robotics programs and is implementing the Young Scholars Program in the St. Louis metro area schools to help identify and serve more of the traditionally underserved populations in gifted programs.</p> <p>Dr. Smith stressed the importance of attendance at meetings since the Council had so few meetings throughout the year and that it was imperative members were willing to work between meetings on assigned tasks in order for the Council business to get accomplished.</p> <p>David Welch reported that Nancy Pate had indicated to him that her health was not improving as rapidly as she had hoped and that she felt she could not devote the time and energy necessary to fulfill her responsibilities to the Council. As such, she was planning to submit her letter of resignation so that another person could be appointed to do the work that was necessary for the Council to move gifted education forward in Missouri. Members of the Council expressed their hope that a replacement could be found from the Kansas City area to replace Nancy to maintain the Council's statewide representation.</p> <p>Dr. Smith assigned the task for the next Lunch and Learn session to be directed by Dr. Robin Lady. She will report on state news/trends in gifted from the Gifted Association of Missouri Conference and national news/trends in gifted from the National Association for Gifted Children (NAGC)</p>

	<p>Convention.</p> <p>Dr. Smith assigned the next GAMbit article to be written by Sally Holt.</p>
II. Public Comment	
	None
III. Updates	
DESE – Progress on Common Core, Other	<p>David Welch gave an update on the Common Core meetings that are taking place. The Council was not able to get any of its nominees appointed to the committees meeting. The first round of meetings were spent trying to iron out several logistic and organizational issues and were not deemed very productive. There is an opportunity for the public to provide comment via the Department website.</p> <p>David reported that the Commissioner has announced her resignation effective January 1, 2015. No immediate process for replacing the Commissioner has yet been established by the State Board of Education. We will have to wait and see what the timeline is to determine how this impacts the process for appointing Council members and the Council’s process for getting on the State Board agenda for our annual report.</p> <p>David announced that he would be attending the Department’s Migrant/English Language Learner section’s MEL Conference in Kansas City this November that had sessions addressing the identification and serving of ELL Gifted students. Dr. Jaime Castellano was the featured speaker on this topic.</p>
Legislation	Kyna Iman reported that GAM was working on getting legislation passed to add a weight for gifted in the foundation formula similar to the weights now existing for Special Education, ELL, etc., and that it was important that we get accurate data to support this proposal and provide a means to calculate what would be an appropriate weight.
GAM – Review Plans for Council Sessions	Dr. Lady reported on the Council’s sessions at the upcoming GAM Conference. The Conversations Table is an informal session at lunchtime and nothing needs to be prepared ahead of time for that session. The breakout session will be at 4 pm in the Auditorium in Lay Hall. Dr. Smith has prepared slides for the session giving a background of the Council to begin the session. She has also prepared handouts for the participants with questions for them to answer and turn in at the end of the session. After the slide presentation the participants will be broken into small groups with a Council member facilitating each small group discussion of 9 key issues. At the end of the session each group will summarize their most important ideas and report out to the entire group.
IV. Action Items	
Council Application Form	The revised application for the Council was discussed and it was suggested to make this a document that could be completed on line. The application should be posted on the website as soon as possible. The motion was made to accept the revised application form by Dr. Beth Winton and seconded by Sally Holt. The motion carried. (Yes: 6, No: 0)
V. Old Business	
Connection with DESE and Communication Process	David reported that other advisory councils such as the technical education groups did not have any ties to the Department and that they acted independently of the Department. He also reported that the Department Communication Section had stated they would be happy to post items on the Department Facebook and Twitter accounts for the Council and if the Council had items that met their definition of news release items they would issue a news release. The Council reiterated its desire to have a cooperative working relationship with the Department while still maintaining its independence.
VI. Study Items	
Statewide Data	The Council conducted a conference call with Dr. Leigh Ann Grant–Engle, Assistant Commissioner of the Office of Data System Management to discuss what data the Department collected on gifted education programs and students and how they could access that data in the most effective

	<p>and efficient manner. One major issue the Council requested data about was the number of students being counted as gifted served (GS) that only took an Advanced Placement (AP) or International Baccalaureate (IB) class(s) and were not identified for any other gifted program service. Leigh Ann discussed possible scenarios for getting a handle on this issue and pledged to work with the Council on getting more accurate data about gifted students and programming in a variety of contexts. Leigh Ann also made the Council aware of the fact that some data could be accessed now through the Quick Facts area of the Department Data Portal. Leigh Ann agreed to send the Council via David an excel spreadsheet with preliminary data to see if this is a format that we could make use of the data. Leigh Ann asked the Council to understand that because of required reporting requirements May through August were almost impossible for the data section to provide any assistance to a group outside of the Department working on these reports. Leigh Ann also suggested there may be a possibility to establish “regular” reports of data the Council wants if it was going to be requesting the data on an annual basis. It was agreed all data reports would be emailed to David to be forwarded to the appropriate Council member or members working with that data.</p>
Annual Report Format – Discussion	<p>Dr. Smith began the discussion about the format by providing everyone with a proposed format for the annual report. Dr. Winton believed part of her dissertation could be adapted to meet some of the format requirements. Dr. Coxon discussed the need to ensure that we include language that puts gifted in terms of special education and the economic benefits of gifted education. We should also include an international context. Dr. Lady discussed the importance of including trend data in the report. Sally Holt expressed the opinion that we should not include recommendations from everyone’s wish list but that in this case fewer recommendations were better than many. Dr. Winton discussed that after this first report there was an advantage of including an update on the previous year’s recommendations to indicate that we expect the Department to take action on Council recommendations. Kyna reported that the intent of the legislation creating the Council was that the Council make recommendations that will lead to policy changes and issues that GAM can take to the General Assembly to enact as legislation.</p>
Key Issues List 1 – Preliminary Recommendations	<p>Dr. Winton suggested we make the issue of not counting students in AP & IB courses as gifted as a key recommendation. Other issues were suggested to be considered for recommendation and assigned for further research to be reported on at the next meeting: 1. Professional Development to be researched by Dr. Lady and Lenae Lazzelle; 2. Mandated identification and earmarked funding for gifted services to be researched by Dr. Winton; 3. Acceleration policies and Identification of underrepresented populations to be researched by Dr. Coxon; and 4. Identification and service of Twice Exceptional students to be researched by Sally Holt, along with changing access to gifted program descriptions online.</p>
Key Issues List 2 – Discussion of Transfers, Class Size, Acceleration/ Differentiation Policy, Funding	<p>Of these items, discussion determined that acceleration and funding will be moved forward and brought to the December 2 meeting for further discussion. The other topics were deemed important but will be addressed in future years.</p>
Key Issues List 3 – LOS (Beth)	<p>It was agreed that this issue is important but will be addressed in future years.</p>
Key Issues List 4 – PD (Lenae, Robin)	<p>It was agreed that this issue will be moved forward and brought to the December 2 meeting for further discussion.</p>
Key Issues List 5 – Identification 2E (Sally), Under-represented (Steve)	<p>It was agreed that these issues will be moved forward and brought to the December 2 meeting for further discussion.</p>
VII. Planning Upcoming Meeting(s)	

Dates	Dec. 2, Jan. 13 (20), Feb. 25 (GEW), April 21, Other
Next Meeting	December 2, 2014 in Jefferson City
Next Meeting Topics	1 – Preparing Recommendations and rationales 2 – Planning February report process 3 - Other
VIII. Adjournment	
Adjournment	The meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Handouts:

October 16, 2014 Agenda

August 4, 2014 Minutes

Key Issues for Council Consideration

Application for Appointment to Advisory Council

New Advisory Council on the Education of Gifted and Talented Children GAMbit Article

Gifted Advisory Council Annual Report outline

Questions for GAM Session Participants