

MINUTES

ADVISORY COUNCIL ON THE EDUCATION OF GIFTED AND TALENTED CHILDREN

December 10, 2015

Meeting 13

Venue:

Jefferson State Office Building

205 Jefferson Street, 7th Floor Conference Room, Jefferson City, MO 65101

TOPIC	NOTES
Members Present	Dr. Robin Lady, Dr. Linda Smith, Dr. Lenae Lazzelle, Dr. Steven Coxon, Dr. Rosemary Hodge-Graves and Mr. David Welch
Members Absent	Mrs. Sally Holt and Dr. Beth Winton
I. Call to Order	
Call to Order	Dr. Smith called the meeting of the Advisory Council on the Education of Gifted and Talented Children to order at 10:02 a.m. on Thursday, December 10, 2015.
Approval of Agenda – December 10, 2015	It was moved by Dr. Coxon and seconded by Dr. Lady to approve the agenda of the December 10, 2015 meeting. (Yes: 5; No: 0)
Approval of Minutes – October 25, 2015	It was moved by Dr. Lady and seconded by Dr. Hodge-Graves to approve the minutes of the October 25, 2015 meeting. Motion was carried. (Yes: 5; No: 0)
Chair Comments – GAMbit (new article), Lunch & Learn, Other	<p>GAMbit is going to produce their winter issue this month after Christmas break. Dr. Lady will write the winter issue article. Dr. Lady suggested that if we do not have a council meeting between reports, then we do not need to submit an article to GAMbit. But if we have a meeting around a deadline, then we should include an article. Dr. Winton will write the next article and Dr. Hodge-Graves after that.</p> <p>Dr. Smith will ask Dr. Winton to do the January Lunch and Learn report for the Council. Mrs. Holt will do the Lunch and Learn after Dr. Winton.</p> <p>There was a discussion regarding changes to the Gifted Education Administrative Rule. After the public comment period is over, only a general comment is usually posted on the web.</p> <p>The Council discussed the agenda order regarding “public comment”. The Council agreed to move that agenda item before “planning upcoming meeting(s)”. There was consensus to allow Council’s chair to have discretion and request public participants to give feedback during the course of the meeting. There was consensus that the Chairperson would announce who was invited to give reports at Council meetings and not list their name on the agenda.</p>

II. Public Comment	
	None
III. Updates	
DESE	<p>Mr. Welch referenced the Administrative Memo that went out to superintendents on December 8, 2015. It states that students in Advanced Placement (AP) or International Baccalaureate (IB) courses will not be labeled as Gifted Served (GS) in MOSIS. KBIA radio and KOMU-TV Channel 8 contacted Mr. Welch for comment regarding this issue. Dr. Smith said she will add the administrative memo change to our next report to the State Board of Education. Mr. Welch will make a notation on the historical data chart on the web showing that in the 2016-2017 school year, IB and AP students will not be classified as gifted students.</p> <p>Mr. Welch reported that the Department of Education is going over a complete reorganization of our Data Systems Management area. Several data people have been moved back into individual offices. We now have a data systems' person on the Office of Quality Schools' floor.</p> <p>Mr. Welch will start desk audits in January 2016. There are 258 districts that say they have a state approved gifted program and 35,460 gifted students. This is preliminary data and will be updated to reflect Mr. Welch's review.</p> <p>The Federal Government has passed new education legislation. The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) replaces No Child Left Behind (NCLB). Several people within the Missouri Department of Education are currently reading the ESSA legislation. Gifted and Talented is now explicitly mentioned in the law. Mr. Welch included questions and answers about the ESSA Act from the National Association for Gifted Children (NAGC) website for the Council.</p>
Legislation	<p>Dr. Lady reported GAM will propose three bills which include a revenue adjustment proposal. Previously, if gifted programs dropped their enrollment by more than 20% as compared to their enrollment in 2006, there was a penalty. The recommendation is for a revenue adjustment if a district drops its enrollment more than 20% compared to its previous years enrollment. The second bill will establish a weight for gifted in the foundation formula similar to those for ELL. The third bill is a mandate which will make "may" into a "shall". House Bill 1419 sponsored by Representative Donna Pfautsch is the revenue adjustment. Senator David Pearce is the Senate sponsor and is the Chair of the Senate Education Committee. Mr. Welch has asked Kyna Iman about speaking to Rep. Pfautsch about amending the revenue adjustment where districts with 10 or fewer gifted students would be exempt from the 20% payment adjustment. House Bill 1429 (weight bill) is sponsored by Representative Chrissy Sommer and it does not have a Senate sponsor yet. The third bill is the mandate and it does not have a sponsor as yet. Session begins January 6, 2016.</p>
GAM	<p>GAM had a retreat and talked about planning for the new year, a balanced budget and changing GAM districts to match the Regional Professional Development Center (RPDC) areas. This will be on the GAM Board agenda in January 2016. GAM is compiling a list of speakers on gifted topics in the RPDC</p>

	areas. The 2016 GAM conference will be at the University of Missouri in Columbia in October 2016. Dr. Lazzelle is slated to be the next GAM president.
IV. Action Items	
	None
V. Old Business	
	None
VI. Discussion Items	
Gifted Certification	<p>Mr. Welch reported that the new certification requirements include 6 additional hours of credit to receive gifted certification. He sent a request to all the colleges that offer gifted certification courses for any concerns or questions they had about the new requirements. Drury University, Lindenwood University, University of Missouri, Missouri Baptist University, Truman State University, University of Central Missouri, Columbia College, Maryville University and Webster University are the nine universities that are authorized to offer gifted education certification. He received one response from Webster University and they did not have any questions or concerns. Dr. Coxon said more teachers may not go into gifted education because of the additional credit hours required. Dr. Coxon said a lot of teachers are not currently taking the research course because they already took a research course in their master's program. Mr. Welch reported that the two-year teaching experience requirement is sometimes waived. The curriculum criteria for the certification courses are developed by the Department but what criteria are covered in each course are determined by each university. Mr. Welch will email the Council the link to the Department's curriculum criteria requirements. Dr. Smith recommended the GAM's University Task Force work on curriculum guidelines for each course in the gifted certification sequence.</p> <p>Some of the questions raised regarding certification include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 – Can you have a two year temporary gifted certificate and followed by two years provisional? 2 – Is there any clarification on the three additional hours of clinical experience? Is there a percentage of how much elementary and how much secondary is required? 3 – How does adding secondary shift the waiving of this requirement? 4 – How districts are finding out about the new change. Can some people be grandfathered into it and not have to receive the additional 6 hours? 5 – What happens in rural districts because they do not have a teacher that is gifted certified?
VII. Study Items	
Recommendations # 1-5	David Welch commented on Recommendation #4 which is under-represented and Recommendation #5 which is twice exceptional. For the underrepresented, it requires a lot of work on the district's part to do some scaffolding. Dr. Coxon reported on an overview of how his pilot said districts identify students using the NNAT Scale and sometimes the HOPE Scale. They look at the top 10 % of K-3 students with the goal of kids moving into state approved programs via an alternative pathway. What they consistently see is

	<p>that kids are missing basic math skills. Dr. Lazzelle said that her district only looks at schools that are 50% free and reduced lunch or more. It is a one-day-a-week pull-out program. Dr. Hodges-Graves said how you communicate the plan to the schools is key as well as having a real commitment before presenting it to the board. Scaffolding was then discussed. There is a continuum of scaffolding efforts and it can take many forms. They could have a special program over the summer, a six-month program, or a day-to-day program.</p> <p>The twice exceptional piece is a challenge. Mr. Welch can't find a model and is running into the special education exclusions. Dr. Coxon has some resources he will share with Mr. Welch. Gifted and special education need to work together for identification.</p>
VIII. Lunch & Learn	
	<p>An article called "Early Enrichment for Young Gifted Children" talks about nurturing children from birth and the potential of every student. The article "The Raising of America Kansas City" is a guide showing how to share information with people.</p>
IX. Study Items (Continued)	
<p>Recommendations – Update # 6-10</p>	<p>A policy allowing acceleration for students demonstrating advanced performance or potential is Recommendation #6. Dr. Coxon referenced the book "A Nation Empowered" which has a lot of research. He referenced a map that shows all the states and whether acceleration is a mandate or policy.</p> <p>One three-credit hour course requirement is Recommendation #7. Dr. Lazzelle said the class should include these things, even if it does not allow extra time for the class. It needs to be communicated to teachers what is expected of them.</p> <p>Recommendation #9 is gifted identification and programming should be required in Missouri. A recommended step would be if districts had to include it in their building improvement plan. It was also suggested that identified gifted students would be included in the state report card and districts would have to report it.</p> <p>Recommendation #10 is that earmarked funds should be allocated for gifted identification and programming in Missouri. GAM is moving forward on this.</p>
<p>Recommendations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuum of Services Model • Modifications to State Guidelines (including Appeal Process, other key gifted program issues) 	<p>Continuum of services model will be discussed next month. Dr. Lazzelle will send Mr. Welch a pyramid of the model their district used.</p> <p>Guidelines are not administrative rules. Program guidelines can be adjusted at any time but must be consistent with administrative rules. Dr. Lazzelle said the acceleration piece should be for all school districts regardless if they have a gifted program or not.</p>
<p>Gifted Certification – Discussion with DESE officials</p>	<p>Margery Tanner with the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education addressed the Council. She is Director of Educator Certification.</p>

	<p>Regarding grandfathering from the old requirements to the new, Mrs. Tanner said anyone who is currently on a temporary certificate will be allowed to finish. August 1, 2017 is when the new requirements take effect. They must have temporary or a provisional certificate to finish. If requested and warranted, DESE gives teachers a one-year grace period to finish up. You can only have a temporary certificate for one year and a provisional certificate is for two years. You can ask for a provisional certificate after 9 semester hours.</p> <p>If you currently have a one-year temporary certificate and you ask for another year, could you still get a two-year provisional certificate that results in a total of four years? Mrs. Tanner said it is for people that might get in a bind in trying to complete their certification. She said the Department always works with people to extend it and get it renewed.</p> <p>Some districts try to not have any temporary or provisional certificated employees. What causes districts to be worried about this? Mrs. Tanner said the standard used to be 5% of the teachers in a district could be not certified. Dr. Chris Neale (Assistant Commissioner for the Office of Quality Schools) said highly qualified rules set the standard high but districts do not like ‘dings’ when monitored. Even though dings do not carry any consequences, districts still want to get a certificate on everybody. The Department can withhold funding for districts that have employees teaching with no certificate.</p> <p>Gifted certification has always been a K-12 certificate with experience in elementary and secondary. Universities decide if the student has had the necessary training.</p> <p>Increasing the number of courses that need to be taken may be discouraging for some, create a decline in the number of gifted certified teachers and result in a decline in the number of people getting gifted certification. Is there some override where a teacher could be assigned to teach gifted, but not have the certification? Dr. Neale said he does not see an immediate problem. The Department can waive regulations but not statute. Districts can certainly help a teacher with tuition reimbursement if they have trouble paying for the classes at the university.</p> <p>What is the best route to get this widely know? Information is on the Department’s web site and information goes out as administrative memos to superintendents. The Department is developing all new matrixes for all the areas. Dr. Smith suggested that Mr. Welch create a Q&A sheet on gifted certification and that GAM post this new information as well.</p> <p>The new requirements go into effect in 2017. If for some reason your organization wants to tweak them, they should work with Mrs. Tanner.</p>
X. Planning Upcoming Meeting(s)	
Review annual calendar	Dates – January 15 (back-up January 22); March 1 (back-up March 3); May 17 (State Board of Education meeting)
Next Meeting Topic(s)	

XI. Adjournment	
	A motion was made by Dr. Lazzelle and seconded by Dr. Coxon to adjourn. (Yes: 5: No: 0). The meeting adjourned at 2:41 p.m.

Attachments:

Agenda for December 10, 2015

Minutes of October 25, 2015

Administrative Memo of December 8, 2015 regarding AP and IB State Approved Change

National Association for Gifted Children Questions and Answers about the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)

“The Raising of America Kansas City” Screening Toolkit and Discussion Guide

“Early Enrichment for Young Gifted Children” by Keri M. Guilbault, Ed.D. from March 20, 2012

“Investments in Early Childhood Education Bring Returns for Everyone” by NAEYC

MO Dept. of Elementary and Secondary Education’s form “Gifted Education, Grades K-12”

MoSTEP 1.2.1.1: Gifted Education Competencies – Revised January 2004