MINUTES
ADVISORY COUNCIL ON THE EDUCATION OF GIFTED AND TALENTED CHILDREN
July 20, 2015

Venue:
Lindenwood University – Spellman Center, Room 4105
209 South Kingshighway, St. Charles County, MO 63301

<table>
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<th>TOPIC</th>
<th>NOTES</th>
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<td>Members Present</td>
<td>Dr. Robin Lady, Mrs. Sally Holt, Dr. Linda Smith, Dr. Beth Winton, Mrs. Lenae Lazzelle and Mr. David Welch</td>
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<td>Members Absent</td>
<td>Dr. Steven Coxon, Dr. Rosemary Hodge-Graves</td>
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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 10:15 a.m. on Monday, July 20, 2015.

Approval of Agenda – July 20, 2015
It was moved by Mrs. Holt and seconded by Dr. Lady to approve the agenda of the July 20, 2015 meeting. (Yes: 5; No: 0)

Approval of Minutes – May 19, 2015
It was moved by Mrs. Lazzelle and seconded by Dr. Winton to approve the minutes of the May 19, 2015 meeting, as amended. Motion was carried. (Yes: 5; No: 0)

Chair Comments – Appointments to Council, GAMbit (new article), Lunch & Learn, Other

Dr. Smith reported that she had been informed by the Commissioner that Dr. Lady and Mrs. Holt have been reappointed to the Council for four year terms. Dr. Smith discussed her thank you letter to Commissioner Vandeven and Dr. Vandeven’s response. Mrs. Lazzelle will be responsible for writing the next article for GAMbit reporting on the Council’s next two meetings. The lunch and learn session scheduled for today will be rescheduled for the next meeting because we are having lunch with the new teachers of the gifted and Dr. Graves will be responsible for this session.

II. Public Comment

None

III. Updates

DESE

Mr. Welch reported that Dr. Chris Neale has started his tenure as the Assistant Commissioner of the Office of Quality Schools. Dr. Neale was Superintendent at the Gasconade County R I School District prior to accepting his appointment as Assistant Commissioner. The Council looks forward to working with Dr. Neale to improve the education of gifted students in Missouri. Mr. Welch informed the Council that the Department was reviewing all administrative rules for possible changes. The two rules that impacted gifted education were the rule on gifted programming and the rule on Advanced Placement (AP) and International Baccalaureate (IB) exam fee reimbursement. Mr. Welch announced that the Department has instructed
him to proceed with the implementation of the first 5 recommendations the Council made in its annual report. The goal is to have these five recommendations fully implemented at the beginning of the 2016-2017 school year.

**Legislation**

Dr. Lady reported that GAM would be working with Kyna Iman to develop their legislative agenda for the upcoming session of the General Assembly.

**GAM**

Dr. Lady welcomed the Council to the GAM New Teacher of Gifted Workshop. Dr. Lady informed the Council that Lindenwood University was responsible for providing meeting space for the Council and that Lindenwood was providing the lunch for the Council and the New Teachers. A special thanks goes out to Mary Gismegian for her efforts and coordination of all the details in making this possible. Dr. Lady reported that the each member of the GAM Board of Directors would be getting a copy of the Council’s Annual Report at their meeting on Tuesday. Dr. Lady also asked Dr. Smith to work with her in organizing an appropriate recognition of EdPlus at the GAM October Conference luncheon for their efforts in providing expert analysis and assistance in developing the Annual Report. Dr. Lady also discussed some issues that the Chair of the GAM Parent network had raised and the Council agreed that these issues were more appropriately addressed by GAM than the Council.

**IV. Action Items**

The Council discussed possible changes to the administrative rules for gifted programs that would help clarify some issues and the collection of accurate data about gifted programs in Missouri and decided that the Council should follow the Department’s process for making some possible suggestions to the rule. Dr. Smith was authorized to write and submit suggestions from the Council. The Council also discussed the possibility of making suggestions of changes to the wording in some MSIP Standards that would help in promoting gifted education. The discussion concluded that it would be better to add wording and not loose existing language to provide for more focused and enhanced standards.

**V. Old Business**

None

**VI. Discussion Items**

None

**Feedback on Annual Report**

- Publicity related to the Annual Report
  - Distribution, published articles, postings
  - Other steps needed

Dr. Lady reported that GAM was very excited to have this data. Mr. Welch reported that the Governor’s Office had requested a copy of the report. Dr. Lady reported that Kyna Iman had given a copy of the report to key legislative leaders. Dr. Lady also reported that the National Association for Gifted Children (NAGC) had contacted her about the report. Dr. Smith discussed the article in the St. Louis Post Dispatch about the Annual Report. Dr. Smith reported that she had responded to the inaccurate attribution of the report to GAM by the Davidson Institute and that they had corrected the error on their website.

**VII. Study Items**

- Recommendations - #1-5

Recommendations 1 & 2 deal with more public access to information about gifted programs and the issuance of an annual report on gifted in Missouri. Mr. Welch will be working with the Department Office of Data Systems.
Management to accomplish these recommendations. Dr. Smith and Dr. Coxon will be the Council consultants working with Mr. Welch to help implement these recommendations. Recommendation 3 deals with the issue of counting AP & IB students in the gifted served numbers. Mr. Welch is to work with the appropriate Department staff to issue an Administrative Memo by January 2016 to set the goal of implementation of this by the beginning of the school year 2016-2017. Dr. Winton and Dr. Smith will be the Council consultants that work with Mr. Welch on implementing this recommendation. Recommendation 4 deals with establishing a model policy for the identification and serving of traditionally underrepresented students. The Council wants this to be a specific set of implementation steps not a set of general policy guidelines. The schools need concrete steps to follow. Dr. Coxon and Dr. Graves will be the Council consultants working with Mr. Welch with the goal to implement this recommendation by the beginning of the 2016-2017 school year. Recommendation 5 deals with establishing a model policy for identification and serving twice exceptional students. Similar to recommendation 4, the Council wants specific steps district can follow, not general policy guidelines. Mrs. Sally Holt and Dr. Smith will be the Council consultant working with Mr. Welch with the goal of implementing this recommendation by the beginning of the 2016-2017 school year.

### VIII. Lunch & Learn

**Joining teachers attending New Gifted Teachers Orientation**

The Council members were introduced to the new teachers of the gifted attending the workshop. The Council members then enjoyed lunch with the attendees and addressing their many questions about gifted education and the work of the Council. The Council members expressed a desire to make this an annual meeting at the New Teacher Workshop.

### IX. Study Items (continued)

**Recommendations - #6-10**

Recommendation 6 deals with the adoption of polices permitting acceleration for all school districts. The Department will not be implementing this recommendation at this time. The Council discussed the possibility of adding this as a requirement for state approved gifted programs and Dr. Winton moved and Mrs. Holt seconded a motion to recommend in the comment period that this be included in the revised administrative rules. (Yes: 5; No: 0) The Council also discussed working with the Missouri School Board Association on developing a policy that they might recommend for their member school districts. Mr. Welch reported that he had posted a link to the document *Guidelines for Developing an Academic Acceleration Policy* on the Department’s Gifted Webpage as a resource for school districts. The document was developed by a national work group in 2009 and copies can be obtained from the Connie Belin & Jacqueline N. Blank International Center for Gifted Education and Talent Development at the University of Iowa. Dr. Coxon and Dr. Graves are the Council consultants that will work with Mr. Welch on steps to implement this recommendation in the future. Recommendation 7 deals with requiring teacher preparation programs, including a three hour course on the nature and needs and designing curriculum for gifted students. The Department will not be implementing this recommendation at this time. The Council expressed a desire for Mr. Welch to work with the Office of Educator Quality to explore possible ways to move...
this recommendation forward. Dr. Lady and Mrs. Lazzelle are the Council consultants that will assist Mr. Welch in working on this issue. Recommendation 8 deals with requiring ongoing professional development for teachers on the nature and needs and designing curriculum for gifted students. The Department will not be implementing this recommendation at this time. The Council expressed a desire for Mr. Welch to work with the Office of Educator Quality to explore possible ways to move this recommendation forward. Dr. Lady and Mrs. Lazzelle are the Council consultants that will assist Mr. Welch in working on this issue. Dr. Winton suggested that Mr. Welch consider sending notices to school district that the NAGC webinars are available to provide this type of in-service opportunities for teachers and notify districts of other professional development opportunities about gifted that are available. Dr. Lady commented that there is a possibility that GAM could develop and providing this type of in-service in the future. Recommendation 9 deals with requiring gifted education services in all public school districts. The Department will not be implementing this recommendation at this time. The Council discussed the possibility of looking at the MSIP standards as one means to move forward in this direction. Recommendation 10 deals with providing earmarked funding for gifted education. The Department will not be implementing this recommendation at this time. The Council believes this is a recommendation that we need to continue to support.

Recommendations moving forward

The Council discussed other opportunities for moving forward on recommendations not currently being implemented by the Department. The Council believes that other options to move forward on some may be available through actions GAM can take and that there may be other avenues to work with the Department on these recommendations. The Council believes it is important to pursue all 10 recommendations over time. Other possible future recommendations were also briefly reviewed.

X. Planning Upcoming Meeting(s)

Dates – October 25 (1/2 day), December 10

On October 25, the Council will be guests for lunch at the State Gifted Conference at the University of Missouri-Columbia and will meet following lunch. The December meeting will be on December 10. Tentative future meeting dates are January 15, with a back-up date of January 22; March 1 with a back-up date of March 3; May presentation to the State Board and meeting; and a July meeting in conjunction with the GAM New Teacher Workshop.

Next Meeting Topics

XI. Adjournment

Adjournment

A motion was made by Dr. Winton and seconded by Mrs. Holt to adjourn. (Yes: 5; No: 0). The meeting adjourned at 2:50 p.m.

Attachments:
Agenda for July 20, 2015
Minutes of May 19, 2015
Advisory Council for the Education of Gifted and Talented Children Recommendations for Action – 2015
Addressing Under-representation of Student Populations in Gifted Programs – Randy I. Dorn
Rockwood School District Regulation 2535 – Student Academic Acceleration