

MINUTES

ADVISORY COUNCIL ON THE EDUCATION OF GIFTED AND TALENTED CHILDREN

March 1, 2017

Meeting 20

Venue:

Jefferson State Office Building, 7th Floor Conference Room
205 Jefferson Street, Jefferson City, MO

| TOPIC | NOTES |
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| Members Present | Dr. Linda Smith, Dr. Lenae Lazzelle, Dr. Beth Winton, Ms. Julia Alsobrook, Dr. Steven Coxon, Dr. Robin Lady, Mrs. Sally Holt and Mr. David Welch |
| Members Absent | |
| 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 12:00 p.m. on March 1, 2017. |
| Approval of Agenda – March 1, 2017 | It was moved by Dr. Lazzelle and seconded by Dr. Coxon to approve the agenda of the March 1, 2017 meeting. (Yes: 7; No: 0) |
| Approval of Minutes – December 9, 2016 | It was moved by Dr. Winton and seconded by Dr. Coxon to approve the minutes of the December 9, 2016 meeting. Motion was carried. (Yes: 7; No: 0) |
| Chair Comments – Meeting with the Commissioner, GAMbit (new article), Lunch & Learn, Other | <p>Dr. Smith had a meeting with the Commissioner of Education and Chief of Staff Robin Coffman. Mr. Welch was in attendance at the meeting. It was a very positive, upbeat meeting. Dr. Smith went through some of the data included in the 2017 report and reviewed the first five recommendations from the Gifted Advisory Council. Dr. Smith also discussed the fact that the first two recommendations were still not implemented.</p> <p>Dr. Smith discussed recommendations 6-10 with the Commissioner. The Commissioner stated that some of the recommendations went beyond the Department’s limited authority. Statutory authority is needed to require explicit activities by local districts.</p> <p>Recommendation 9 focuses on mandating identification and programming for gifted student in Missouri. A bill was recently filed in the legislature to addresses this statewide need.</p> <p>Technically, schools have an acceleration policy but most are very vague. A more explicit policy is needed, along with more consistent implementation of the policy.</p> <p>The Commissioner advised the Council to answer “why” have the gifted</p> |

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| | <p>education programs.</p> <p>Dr. Smith will check to see where we are in the rotation with writing the article for GAMbit. Dr. Coxon volunteered if needed.</p> <p>Time will not permit Lunch and Learn at the May Council meeting.</p> |
| II. Updates | |
| DESE Report | <p>Mr. Welch reported that an Administrative Memo went out to all administrators on February 28, 2017 regarding the annual desk audits of the state-approved Gifted Programs. This audit will be the first time AP/IB students will not be counted in the gifted served count.</p> <p>Mr. Welch said he was pleased that the Commissioner took the gifted education program information and extrapolated it to other areas. The Commissioner asked what one thing the Gifted Advisory Council could do to make sure every student in every building was having their needs met. Mr. Welch said it would help if we had a gifted specialist in every building. Giving someone that responsibility in every building, even if they are not certified, would be a big step forward.</p> <p>The State Plan to comply with the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) is being written and will be submitted to the State Board in April. The leadership team has had discussions about using some of Title IV.A money for paying for low-income students AP exams.</p> |
| Legislative Report | <p>Ms. Kyna Iman thanked the Council for coming to the Capitol for GAM Day. Representative Chrissy Sommer's HB 670 has been voted out of committee and would require any district with a state-approved gifted education program to have a process that allows parents or guardians to request a review of the determination that their child did not qualify for gifted services. The language in HB 670 uses the word "review" rather than "appeal" as originally written.</p> <p>Representative Michael Butler filed HB 1030 which would require districts with a sufficient number of children determined to be gifted to establish special programs for the gifted children.</p> <p>The Governor did not recommend funding for the Fine Arts and Scholars Academies. It is another tight fiscal year. Kyna is working to try and find money to be put back in the budget for the Academies.</p> |
| GAM Report | <p>Dr. Lazzelle reported that GAM met in December. The GAM Conference is going to be at Drury College on October 20 and 21, 2017. Dr. Lazzelle will go to Washington, DC in ten days to represent Missouri at the NAGC Affiliates Conference.</p> |
| III. Action Items | |
| | None |
| IV. Old Business | |
| Update on 2015 Recommendations | The Department is working on implementing these data recommendations for us but it takes time. There are scheduled and unscheduled time sensitive |

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data preparation and availability (Recommendations 1 & 2) • Feedback on eliminating AP/IB counts in gifted totals (Recommendation 3) • Feedback on new DESE Identification publication (Recommendations 4 & 5) | <p>demands that come up and our request gets pushed back.</p> <p>Only the St. Louis City and Ritenour School Districts called Mr. Welch with questions about the guidelines document on identifying and serving traditionally underrepresented students. Dr. Lady shared information from the document with 60 staff at the Jennings School District and they were very interested in it.</p> |
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V. Study Items

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| <p>2017 Report distribution, publicity</p> | <p>Mr. Welch sent an email with the link to the 2017 Gifted Advisory Council’s Report to every school district that listed a gifted contact person. A hard copy was provided to all the DESE Assistant Commissioners, Deputy Commissioners and Commissioner. The rest of the hard copies were given to Ms. Kyna Iman to distribute to appropriate legislators.</p> <p>Dr. Lady said at the start of the 2015 GAM Conference, they had a session to talk about the Council’s Report. Dr. Lady thought we should have a 15-minute session to talk about the 2017 Report at the GAM Conference again. The executive summary (pages 8-13) of the 2017 Report could be copied and included in every conference participants’ material.</p> |
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| <p>Planning – Board of Education presentation</p> | <p>Dr. Smith reminded the Council we had ten minutes to talk with the Board of Education and asked for suggestions of what we should say about why the Board should care about gifted students. After considerable discussion, it was decided to put a short video together for the Board to address this question. Dr. Winton volunteered to do this. All Council members were asked to get information for the video to Dr. Winton within the next week. Dr. Winton will send the draft version of the information/video to Dr. Smith and Mr. Welch for review.</p> <p>The Council then reviewed the PowerPoint that was presented to the State Board of Education in 2015. It was recommended to eliminate slide 8 on the PowerPoint and not include it in the new PowerPoint for the 2017 presentation to the State Board. Dr. Coxon asked if we should rather list the five older recommendations and the three new recommendations and rank them or not. Dr. Winton said we should not confuse the Board but just list the five previous recommendations and the three new ones. Dr. Smith said we should put together something positive. Of our recommendations to the Board, three have been implemented and two are in process. It was suggested to eliminate slides 3 and 5 from the 2015 presentation. Dr. Lady will send Dr. Smith two graphs that have the percent of districts that do not have a state approved gifted program and a graph for the percent of districts that do have a state approved gifted program. Council members agreed that Figure 1 and Figure 7 from the 2017 Report should be included in the PowerPoint presentation to the State Board.</p> |
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| VI. Discussion Items | |
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| Recommended Process for Selection of Council Members | <p>This year Ms. Alsobrook is finishing out Dr. Rosemary Graves' term and Dr. Smith's term is also ending. Dr. Smith has decided not to request to serve another four years on the Council. The Council reviewed the general guidelines that the Council had approved two years ago. The general guidelines say it is recommended to appoint the chair for two years but it does not have to be for two years. Dr. Lady said she believes GAM needs to have a presence in the Council but the chair for the Council should NOT be a GAM representative. Mrs. Holt said that we should remove the word "annual" from the general guidelines so it will read "The Council Chair is recommended to be a two-year appointment, with extensions possible." Dr. Lazelle recommended that whoever is interested in serving as chair should talk with the current chairperson first to see what is involved in being the chair. Dr. Coxon said the recommendation should not come from a single voice. It should be made through the chair and the gifted education director. If someone is interested in being chair of the Council, they should notify both of them of their interest in serving. The general guidelines were revised to reflect the change. The Guidelines were further changed to state that it is "preferred" the candidate for chair has served "at least" one year on the Council. It was agreed to delete the last sentence that the chair should have the time and interest to serve.</p> <p>We will continue to work on the guidelines document at our next meeting.</p> |
| VII. Public Comment | |
| | None |
| VIII. Planning Upcoming Meeting(s) | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dates (2017) – May 16 (State Board of Education Meeting), Other Next Meeting Topics – Presentation debriefing; Review of foundation documents | <p>There should be a meeting between May and October so the new chair will be able to sit in and see how the meeting operates. Our guidelines say that the Council must meet for a minimum of at least three meetings a year.</p> <p>May 16 is the next meeting in Jefferson City. The Council will also meet on July 24th.</p> |
| IX. Adjournment | |
| | The meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m. Motion by Dr. Winton and seconded by Dr. Coxon. (Yes: 7; No: 0) |

Attachments:

Agenda for March 1, 2017

Minutes of December 9, 2016

2017 Report from the Advisory Council on the Education of Gifted and Talented Children