

Gifted and Talented Parent Advisory Board Minutes

Wednesday, October, 2014

Called to Order: 9:09 am

- I. President's Report.
- II. Representative's Reports.
 - a. Tonawanda – Linda Atkinson – Boxes were introduced and placed in Main Office. Running Club and Young Rembrandts Club added as extracurricular activities.
 - b. Swanson – Jen Beug Hoffman – Boxes presented and placed in Main Office. Swanson has 14 extracurricular clubs.
 - c. Dixon – Rebecca Giessler – Boxes presented and placed in Main Office. Lego Club to be started at Dixon.
 - d. Brookfield Elementary – Beth Kumer – Geography Bee and Spelling Bee to take place.
- III. September Minutes Approved. Rebecca Giessler motioned for approval. Beth Kumer seconded the motion.
- IV. Presentations : Response to Intervention
 - a. Chrystyna Mursky from the Department of Public Instruction
 - b. Chris Birr, RtI Coordinator Elmbrook Schools
- V. Adjournment at 11:00am

Activities Reports:

SENG (Supporting Emotional Needs of the Gifted)

SENG has parent groups, webinars, an annual conference as well as publications. Upcoming SENG events are 9/23: The Anxious Family: What to Do when Everyone Frets and 10/7: Asperger's is Awesome.

WATG (Wisconsin Association for Talented and Gifted) WATG will hold its annual conference from Thursday, October 9th until Friday, October 10th at the Kalahari. Thursday's keynote speaker will be Dr. Jonathan Plucker whose work has focused on excellence gaps, creativity and the development and assessment of 21st century skills. Friday's keynote speaker will be Dr. Diane Heacox whose work has focused on differentiation.

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An event is scheduled for October 23rd at 6:30pm at Brookfield East. The topic will be "Guiding Gifted Children Toward Achievement". The presenter will be Dr. Sylvia Rimm.

Look for a list of helpful acronyms as well as a calendar of events on our website.

New Business:

Extra-Curricular Activity Boxes

Mary Brewer presented and explained the Extra-Curricular Activity Boxes that will go to each Teaching and Learning Specialist at each of the elementary schools.

District

Tanya Fredrich, Director of Special Education reviewed the purpose of the GTPAB as a forum for Talent and Development generally within the District. She instructed parents to address specific needs with their school's Teaching and Learning Specialist.

Tanya introduced the new District G&T Staff members: Peggy Reimer (9-12 GT Coordinator), Dr. Rae McClain (K-8 GT Coordinator) and Jason VanRoo (Creative and Fine Art Specialist).

Tanya reviewed the audit conducted by Dr. Scott Peters last year along with his eight recommendations. The District has implemented two of the eight recommendations – GT Coordinators and Comprehensive Staff Identification. The remaining six recommendations including implementation of GT Plan that is required by the State of Wisconsin will be developed over the next three years. The recommendations include: Program options for identified students, Individualized student planning and monitoring, Socio-emotional needs and increase retention of students with talents and gifts, Professional Development, Consistent and effective communication as well as an Ongoing annual program evaluation.

Tanya reviewed the Action Plan for 2014-15 that will focus on tapping additional teachers and opened the floor for questions.

Tanya finished her presentation by addressing the various aspects – guideposts, stakeholder collaboration and feedback, implementation at all levels, rigorous programming as well as curricular options and the expansion of High School options.

Peggy Reimer and Dr. Rae McClain the District GT Coordinators introduced themselves.

Jason VanRoo the Creative and Fine Art Specialist introduced himself.

Dr. McClain outlined her action plan for K-8. She will be focusing on working with educators over the data piece for identification; facilitating communication between parents, teachers and students; professional development as well as resources and enrichment.

Peggy outlined her action plan for High School. She will be focusing on increasing program awareness; collaborating with school counselors; communicating between parents, teachers and students; developing school base data teams; professional development as well as collecting and reviewing data to evaluate student outcomes.

The floor was opened for questions.

The meeting adjourned at 10:57am.