



KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

State Advisory Council for Gifted and Talented Education

SUMMARY

NOVEMBER 19, 2020

ATTENDANCE: Katie Booth, Emily Lawson, Julia Roberts, DeAnna Miller, Joe Perceful, Carla Pleasant, Dianne Mackey, Kathie Anderson, Lynette Baldwin

MEMBERS ABSENT: Lisa Sisk, Lindsay Burton

SUMMARY:

Agenda Item: I, II, III

Presenter: Julia Roberts

Summary of Discussion:

Dr. Roberts welcomed everyone. She reviewed the purpose of the State Advisory Council for Gifted and Talented Education (SACGTE)

Kathie Anderson reviewed the procedure for an online meeting. She reminded all members that their cameras would need to be turned on during the meeting.

Roll Call:

Anderson called the roll and those in attendance were noted.

Approval of Minutes:

The members reviewed the minutes from the last Council meeting. Carla Pleasant moved the minutes be approved as submitted. Lynette Baldwin seconded. The members of the Council approved the minutes as submitted.

Agenda Item IV: Craft Academy

Presenter: Sunshine Stamper

Summary of Discussion:

Sunshine Stamper explained that Craft Academy is an advanced high school program with a Science Technology Engineering and Math (STEM) emphasis. For those students who are

accepted into the program, there is no cost for tuition, boarding or meal plan. Stamper said the Craft Academy is searching now for the class of 2023. She explained about where students live, common spaces for living and relaxing, and meal plans. She described student involvement in clubs and organizations. Students in the Craft Academy program have opportunities for research, competitions, weekend activities and events. Usually, students have the opportunity to study somewhere abroad. However, due to the pandemic, the Craft Academy was unable to offer these opportunities this year. February 1, 2021 is the deadline for students to apply to the Craft Academy. Contact Sunshine Stamper at jl.stamper@moreheadstate.edu for virtual visits to the Craft Academy.

Feedback:

Katie Booth asked if the class size at the Craft Academy was expanding. Stamper responded the class sizes were expanding. Diane Mackey asked if the qualification requirements were the same for the Craft Academy as those at the Gatton Academy. Julia Roberts replied they are very similar. Carla Pleasant said she had a student who had a wonderful experience at the Craft Academy.

Roberts said the Gatton Academy had been a good experience for students despite the pandemic. They had a red-letter day in receiving an award from the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). Applications for the Gatton Academy are also due February 1, 2021. She encourages members to share information with those who might be interested.

Mackey asked if school counselors knew about Gatton and Craft. Roberts replied that school guidance counselors should know about it. With the pandemic, it would be good if members would assist in getting the word out.

Agenda Item V: Kentucky Standards for World Language

Presenters: Thomas Clouse, Erin Chaviz

Summary of Discussion:

Thomas Clouse said the purpose of the presentation was to give information about Kentucky's World Language standards and to receive feedback from the Council. The World Language standards were written by teachers and facilitated by the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) staff. Erin Chaviz shared a draft of how to read and interpret the standards. Clouse said they would also be seeking student feedback regarding Kentucky's World Language standards.

Feedback:

Essential questions:

- Do you agree with the key points of the writer's vision statement?
- Should the key points of the writer's vision statement be weighted equally, or should specific points be weighted more than others?

Diane Mackey asked if there is particular emphasis on certain world languages? Clouse responded that classical languages and American Sign Language were the focus.

Lynette Baldwin said she wondered about the ordering of the bullets. Which is the most important to you? Is there a bullet that is most important to you? Should bullet number three be moved in the document so that it is the first bulleted item?

Carla Pleasant said she thought the emphasis on cultural competency was important. Clouse said language competency was an important focus of the teacher-writers too.

Mackey asked how the World Language team planned to facilitate this learning. Chaviz said not all schools in Kentucky will have a world language program. Therefore, parents and students can advocate for this program. Clouse said the KDE works with several organizations to bring teachers from other countries to teach other languages.

Pleasant asked when the standards would go into effect. Chaviz stated the standards would have to go through the regulatory process. It would likely be next year before they would go into effect. Chaviz stated she anticipated the standards might go into effect in the Fall of 2021, if possible.

Agenda Item VI: Equitable Identification in Gifted and Talented (GT) Programs

Presenter: Julia Roberts

Summary of Discussion:

The Council discussed the barriers to equity in identifying students for Gifted and Talented (GT) services. Katie Booth stated to identify students from underserved populations, that schools and need better collaboration with district foodservice and nutrition staff. DeAnna Miller added that district food service coordinators are currently the only staff with Free and Reduced Lunch (FRL) student information. Miller suggested districts could request a list of students or a list of gifted students could be given to the district's food service coordinator, and the foodservice coordinator could help identify those GT students who were identified for FRL.

The Council discussed the strengths of the GT program. Some of the strengths listed were regulations, a state GT consultant, and universal screening. Lynette Baldwin stated it was a strength that Kentucky's GT regulation provides for exceptions to identification criteria for there to be equity in identification. Julia Roberts said that it was a strength that funding is provided for the GT program. However, Kentucky's funding for the GT program has remained the same for three decades.

Carla Pleasant said a barrier for some families is communication about the GT options that are available for students. She encouraged the Council to think about ways the district GT programs can better communicate with parents so that they are aware of how to refer their students for identification. Pleasant said we the Council also needs to look at twice-exceptional students. She said we need to look at the areas of strength regarding special education students rather than the deficits. Baldwin added that another group that needs attention is the rural gifted students. She stated that these areas may not have access to resources that more urban areas have, especially in far eastern and western Kentucky.

Roberts and Baldwin stated that the Council needs to review current documents to ensure they do not include insensitive language. Pleasant said it would be interesting to see GT identification data over time to see if levels in different groups have increased. Roberts said it would also be good to identify those GT students who are achieving at advanced levels from GT students who

are falling within the achievement gap. Pleasant said it would be good to see if there has been any impact from the guidance documents created by the Council. She said it would be good to see disaggregated data from across the state for different categories of GT students. Pleasant said it would be good to look at where the identification is flat or declining. Diane Mackey said she would like to look at the numbers of National Merit Scholars in the state. The Council could also review KPREP scores and ACT and PSAT data. Roberts stated the Council could also review the collected National Association of Education Progress (NAEP) data.

Feedback:

Pleasant said the “elephant in the room” is services that are being provided to GT students during COVID-19. Due to the pandemic, the ability to assess students has been a challenge. Without assessment, students are not identified and therefore services are limited. She said, in her school district, every third grader is given a cognitive assessment, but because it is an in-person test, the district has not come up with a process this school year for assessment. Pleasant thought that other districts would also be having issues with testing due to the pandemic; and therefore, data for this year would be skewed. Kathie Anderson said, due to districts having issues with in-person testing, that this would be a good time for the Council to review student assessment data from Special Education and English Learners programs.

Follow-up Required:

Roberts said the Council should continue this conversation at the next meeting. Anderson said she would research and provide the data discussed for the next meeting.

Agenda Item VII: KAGE Update

Presenter: Lynette Baldwin

Summary of Discussion:

KAGE is hosting a virtual conference on Feb. 23-24, 2021. The three keynote speakers will be Dr. Joseph Renzulli, Dr. Joy Lawson-Davis and Dr. Colin Seal. Additionally, Dr. Emily Mofield will present in the area of curriculum differentiation. Dr. Roberts and her daughter will give a basic session on gifted education. There will other presentations on technology and STEM. There will be sessions on equity and cultural responsiveness. There will be an Administrator’s Institute on February 9, 2021.

Applications are being accepted now for the Service and Advocacy Awards and the Distinguished Student Award.

Feedback:

The Council members discussed ways to promote the KAGE conference and awards. Julia Roberts encouraged members to contact persons in their regions of influence. Kathie Anderson offered to email the GT Coordinators in the state about the conference.

Agenda Item VIII: Federal Funding and Gifted Programs

Presenter: David Millanti

Summary of Discussion:

David Millanti shared with the Council a document created by the federal program consultants in his office. Many of the programs are geared toward special populations. Title III is targeted to address the needs of English language learners. Title IV's focus is to improve the use of technology in schools. 21st Century is a competitive program for funds. For the most part, students who receive services through the 21st Century program obtain them after school. Part A of Title IV is geared toward service provision of rural and low-income districts. High schools generally use funds from several of the Title programs.

Feedback:

Lynette Baldwin asked if several title programs could provide funds for GT professional development and to identify and serve GT students. Millanti replied there were several federal funding programs to which local districts may apply. Baldwin asked how districts may apply for and access such funding sources. Millanti said there is an application process. Julia Roberts asked if the application is completed once a year. Millanti said it is open once in the fall and spring, but it is open all year for districts to edit. The spring deadline is usually April-May.

Millanti said his office is partnering with the Kentucky Rural Education Association (KREA). The KREA is trying to increase its membership through conferences and email.

Follow-up Required:

Kathie Anderson will email to members the document. Millanti provided about the federal programs. Millanti gave his email contact information to the members in case they had additional questions.

IX. Gifted and Talented Education Discussion Items

Presenter: Dr. Julia Roberts

Summary of Discussion:

- Assessments for science and social studies – Kathie Anderson will send out a list to members along with *GT Coordinators Sample Handbook*.
- New GT Resources:
 - State of the States (SOS) has been released. SOS information is collected by the National Association of Gifted Children in collaboration with the Council for State Directors for Programs of the Gifted. The report provides GT education information gathered from almost all 50 states.
 - *Visual and Performing Arts During COVID-19* [video](#) and [slide-deck](#) are posted on the KDE GT Resources webpage.
 - The [Social-Emotional Guidance brochure](#) which was authored by Dr. Ed Amend and Molly Isaacs-McLeod is posted on the GT Resources webpage.
- Gifted Student Service Plan (GSSP) in Infinite Campus (IC) – The Council decided to table its discussion of the GSSP in IC for the next meeting. Anderson will contact Tatiana Adams to ensure this item is included in the agenda for the next Council meeting.

X. Set Future Meeting Dates

Presenter: Dr. Julia Roberts

Summary of Discussion:

The following dates were scheduled for meetings in 2021:

- February 10 (Wednesday)
- April 14 (Wednesday)
- September 8 (Wednesday)
- November 17 (Wednesday)

XI. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned without further discussion. The by-laws state that approval to amend must be given by three quarters of the voting membership.

DRAFT