

Governor's Advisory Council for Gifted Education

Student Life and Technology Center, Hendrix College, Conway

Thursday, July 10, 2014, 11:30 A.M.

AGENDA

- I. Opening of Meeting
 - a. Introductions. Members present- Marilyn Larson and Kathy Pillow-Price. ADE Staff present-Mary Kathryn Stein, Krystal Nail. AGS Staff who attended the meeting to share about AGS included Stacy Key, Fred Boosey, Phillip Melton, Mark Elrod, Nancy Cockman, Lyle Rupert, and William Chomphosy. Marilyn welcomed everyone to the meeting and brief introductions were shared.
 - b. Approval of May minutes. Kathy made a motion to approve the minutes. Marilyn seconded.
 - c. Farewell to retiring members of the Council—Eunice Thrasher and Julie Greathouse. Mary Kathryn commended Eunice and Julie for their service on the council. Their replacements have not been named yet.

- II. Arkansas Governor's School Reports
 - a. Area I: Arts-Fred Boosey
 - b. Area I: Academics-Stacy Key.
 - c. Area II: General Conceptual-Mark Elrod
 - d. Area III: Personal and Social Development-Phillip Melton
 - e. Area IV: Residence Life-William Haden Chomphosy
 - f. Area V: Administration-Nancy Cockman
 - g. Additional reports-Lyle Rupert

All AGS staff shared their reports and had positive things to say about this year's session. Funding is secured for six weeks for next year. Lyle shared that Senator Rapert will be giving a citation to AGS next Thursday, July 17 at 7:30 pm at Staples on the Hendrix campus.

- III. ADE Report. Mary Kathryn shared that Mr. Tony Wood has been named as ADE Commissioner of Education. Dr. Debbie Bruick Jones is now Assistant Commissioner over the Division of Learning Services.
 - a. Intervention Block grants. ADE Office of Gifted and Talented administers these grants which include state science fair, history day, Creativity Arkansas, Destination Imagination and Quiz Bowl.
 - b. AGS Site Selection. Mary Kathryn shared the request for proposals (RFP) will go out in the fall for the next three year cycle for site selection for AGS.
 - c. AGS Student Selection. The application process went online and went mostly smoothly. Judges watched auditions online and did not travel in to review auditions. One judge for each area came in to do the ranking based on what all judges submitted for each of those areas. Mary Kathryn is hoping for essays and applications to be read online next year and bring in reader for each area to rank and make decisions about student selection.
 - d. Advanced Placement—Mary Kathryn shared that the AP Materials and Equipment grant will also become an online form for the 14-15 school year.

- e. GT Professional Development
 - 1. Training on Giftedness in Low Income Students developed for use in the Education Cooperatives and in school districts. This was developed by the ADE Office of Gifted and Talented in collaboration with several coop GT specialists in response to data indicating that students from low income are underidentified and underserved in gifted programs in Arkansas.
 - 2. Teaching the Gifted in Secondary Content Courses training. Mary Kathryn shared that this training was revised and given to GT coop specialists to present. It's a required training if schools use that option to serve gifted learners. Mary Kathryn shared that she hopes to turn it into a Moodle course so that will be an option for teachers to obtain the training through that format.
 - 3. Pre-AP Training and Advanced Placement Summer Institutes. Mary Kathryn shared that these are taking place throughout the state and seem to be going smoothly.
 - 4. NAGC in Baltimore in November. Mary Kathryn shared that she and Krystal were both approved to attend NAGC.
- f. Monitoring and Online GT Program Approval Process—6 Year Cycle. Mary Kathryn reminded everyone that gifted programs have been on a three year rotation for onsite monitoring, but shared that this is changing to a six year cycle. There will be no replacement for Bob Nichols, who was one of two program advisors in the GT office and retired in May. Districts will still complete an online program approval application annually in order to meet requirements from law. In the new cycle, for three years, they will complete a basic application detailing personnel, number of identified students, and program options used. The other years will be an application completed in the year before monitoring, one for the year of onsite monitoring, and one for the year following monitoring.
- g. Schools of Innovation-Act 601 of 2013- Mary Kathryn shared that lots of schools applied, but only 11 got approval; Act 1280-Online Learning. Beginning with 14-15 ninth graders, students have to have at least one online class in high school before graduation.
- h. Act 56 Application
 - 1. An online Google Doc in the fall
 - 2. GAC members will receive applications to review in a shared Dropbox file prior to decision making at January 2015 meeting

IV. Work on Annual Report. Marilyn shared a draft of her letter and asked for suggestions. The rough draft of the recommendations for 14-15 were reviewed and revised. Marilyn will send out the recommendations to the council members and ask for feedback and approval in a reply to all format.

V. 2014-15 Quarterly Meeting Dates

October 15, 2014	10 A.M. until 2 P.M.	1st Floor East Room	Main Library
January 14, 2015	10 A.M. until 2 P.M.	3rd Floor Meeting Room	Cox Creative Center
May 6, 2015	10 A.M. until 2 P.M.	3rd Floor Meeting Room	Cox Creative Center
July 9, 2015	11:30 A.M.	Student Life & Technology Center	Hendrix College, Conway

Kathy motioned to adjourn and Marilyn seconded.

