

1) Welcome and Introductions:

Attendees: Amanda Higgins, Corinne Graves, Sarah Wohlman, Erin Myers, Valerie Burke, Dustin Pifer, Terri Rinko, Allison Daughtride, Katherine Shee, Samantha Cooke, Holly Henson, Kate Jones.

2) Approve Meeting Minutes- 2/18/2016:

Motion to Approve: Dustin Pifer

Second: Valerie Burke

3) Technical Review of the Local Plan for the Education of the Gifted – Corinne Graves

- a. Our gifted plan as we currently have it sent out to all GAC members
- b. Dr. Pollan, Specialist for Gifted Education Programs, coordinates peer review process for all of the local education plans – at this time no additional review needed everything has met standards.
- c. Corinne Graves states before our plan comes up for review to consider not only test Language Arts but also Mathematics in Kindergarten, but once students are identified our program would need to provide Mathematic gifted services for Kindergarten level.
- d. Dustin Pifer points out that this would bring up staffing concerns in addition to the current programs and that this could be done via pullout services. Also mentions where Young Scholars falls under the umbrella and whether that would address this, as students are currently identify upon non- verbal thinking.
- e. Amanda Higgins also brings up, while it is a wise recommendation, there is the concern of staffing, appropriate resources, and curriculum. Some plans provide enriching services provided by the homeroom teacher.
- f. Corinne Graves points out there is no recommendation on page 5 of the current local plan. It meets standards and receives a commendation, but a recommendation was made to be more specific including terminology that recognizes the social-emotional aspects of gifted learners. Amanda Higgins explains that in 2011 when the local plan was drafted use of a broader language was intentional to incorporate everything.
- g. Page 7 received lots of recommendations all based upon language issues. Item 5 on page 7 the recommendation reads: “the division might add information about the gifted education advisory committee” to strengthen Parent/Community involvement. Amanda Higgins supports that this is a good idea, although the Gifted Advisory Committee had their own entire section toward the end of the local plan when it was originally drafted.
- h. Most of the other recommendations were mostly involving the language used during the drafting of the Local plan. Broader language was intentionally used to cover more programs as many of the programs and enrichments change from year to year; such as summer opportunities having different grants and universities where programs are offered. To solve this yearly change problem, Amanda Higgins suggests putting a link in the local plan to the Gifted Services website so that it can stay updated.

- i. Page 11 item 2 a recommendation of obtaining more extensive information from the parent during the eligibility and placement process of a student. Various ideas of the manner with which to obtain this information was discussed. Currently there is a section where a parent can write a paragraph explaining why the child should be identified, but it could include further questions and observation type of checklist for referral. These prompts will be considered for future use.
- j. Page 14 Item 2 offers a recommendation covering policy upon identified students returning to the county after an extended absence from our program. This allows us to retest identified students to ensure the damage of gaps in education per different school systems. Discussion about retesting to further discussion in final review for the local plan which is up in 2017.



KG Gifted Plan
Technical Review.pdf

- 4) Coordinator's Report- Amanda Higgins:
 - a. STEM Day for identified 5th/6th and CGS will be held on May 26, 2016. The original date conflicted with S.O.L. testing and Mr. Mack made this date happen.
 - b. Gifted Center Open House is May 19, 2016. Newly Identified students will receive an invitation early in May so they are aware of the date. To be held at KGES.
 - c. New Program - Young Scholars Update, Dustin Pifer created a supply list with the materials and resources we will purchase to support this small group.
 - d. GAC Members 2016-2017- applications to be completed by 6/1/2016.
- 5) Other Business:
 - a. Young Scholars to be included in the School Board brief.
 - b. Annual School Board Report is May 23, 2016