

MINUTES
Illinois Gifted Advisory Council Meeting
Illinois State Board of Education
100 North First Street
2nd Floor North Conference Room
Springfield, Illinois
January 15, 2015
10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

10:10 A.M.

Ms. Beltchenko called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m. The following Council members were present along with Marci Johnson.

**WELCOME &
ATTENDANCE**

Members Present

Ms. Laura Beltchenko, Chairperson
Dr. Sally Thomson
Dr. Sally Walker
Ms. Diane Beedy
Mr. Rob Dorman
Mr. Terry Mohaupt

Others Present

Ms. Marci Johnson

Absent

Ms. Diana Rea

**APPROVAL OF
THE MINUTES**

Mr. Mohaupt moved that the Illinois Gifted Advisory Council hereby approve the minutes for the October 15, 2015 meeting. Dr. Thomson seconded the motion and it passed with a unanimous voice vote.

**GIFTED
ENDORSEMENT
UPDATE**

Marci Johnson informed the Gifted Advisory Council members that 511 people have taken the gifted test and 504 have successfully passed it. She has also inquired to how many people have applied for the gifted endorsement, and as soon as she has the numbers she will share them with the Council members.

Ms. Johnson updated the Council members on the following issues concerning the gifted endorsement and testing:

- Correct deadlines to apply for the gifted endorsement (before February 1, 2015)
- Information sent to ROE offices on applying for gifted endorsement
- Middle School Gifted Endorsement
- Lack of Illinois state-approved gifted education programs in higher education systems.

She also informed the Council members that this information is available on the ISBE website.

**DISCUSSION OF
GES
(GIFTED
EDUCATION
SEMINAR
TRAINING)**

Ms. Diane Beedy who is offering the Gifted Education Seminar (GES) Trainer Training commented that she is in the process of reviewing scripts and working to make sure they are transcribed into visual slides for editing. At this time she has no anticipated date for completion.

Ms. Johnson informed the Council members that after February 1, 2015 the role of GES will be professional development for classroom teachers and not part of the gifted endorsement.

Draft Questions, Regarding The Topics Of Professional Development To Be Offered, To Be Asked Of The Illinois Association Of Gifted Children (IAGC) Members At The IAGC Annual Conference

Ms. Johnson opened the discussion on what questions the Gifted Advisory Council members would like to have on their survey to be handed out at the upcoming Illinois Association for Gifted Children (IAGC) Annual Conference. The Council members determined that the survey questions would be focused around what needs gifted educators may have for additional professional development, beyond the Gifted Education Seminar (GES).

They agreed that they would ask what type of additional professional development would they (teacher, administrator, coordinator or parent) find beneficial around the following topics, through the lens of supporting the needs of a gifted child:

- Student Identification
- Social and Emotional Development
- Curriculum and Instruction
- Program Delivery
- Program Evaluation
- Support in Parenting a Gifted Child
- Other

WORKING LUNCH

Ms. Beltchenko announced that the Gifted Advisory Council members would work through their lunch while they continued with the meeting's agenda.

Educators Leaders Network Module for the Illinois Principals Association

Ms. Johnson reviewed with the Council members the Illinois Principals Association (IPA) module website called Education Leaders Network (ELN). The ELN offers a professional development platform that can be used by the school districts in a variety of ways. Ms. Johnson stated that the network has been a great success and that all administrators and priority districts have access to the ELN. She also noted that all of the Council members will be receiving access soon.

Ms. Johnson stated that from the Councils professional development needs survey with IAGC she hopes that we can find out enough information to help create some gifted modules for the ELN, as well as create some possible professional development marketing. The IPA does require special training if we decide to submit materials for ELN.

Review the ISBE Gifted Website

Ms. Johnson shared with the Council members the ISBE website information on gifted education. After reviewing the website the members agreed to:

- remove the links that are no longer connected or active
- update the list of universities that offer gifted programs
- add new outside links (Ms. Beltchenko and Dr. Thomson will send list of links)
- add contact information for Gifted Education Seminars (GES)

CONTINUATION OF MORNING AGENDA

Ms. Johnson reminded the Council members that their breakdowns to determine which category for gifted students' best identifies needs for them should be sent to her or Marsha Moffett before March 2015 for the April 2015 meeting.

Categories for Identifying Needs of Gifted Students

- Identification - Mr. Mohaupt
- Curriculum and Instruction – Ms. Rea
- Program Delivery Model – Ms. Beedy
- Finance - Mr. Dorman

- Evaluation – Dr. Thomson
- Teacher Selection - Ms. Beltchenko
- Professional Development- Dr. Walker

GES with/without funding

Ms. Beltchenko pointed out that if the Gifted Council wants to draft legislation for gifted or request funding it must be done this week. In order for the legislature to assign money for gifted we are going to have to have a well laid out plan showing exactly where the money would be used. We need to ask for a defined amount per gifted student.

Mr. Dorman suggested that maybe gifted education should go back under special education to ensure services to gifted children. Dr. Thomson pointed out that maybe it should be put with low income because legislature already provides funds for low income and Title I Directors know that their money can be used for gifted education. This may be our better chance of getting gifted funding since it provides equity to the state.

Dr. Walker reminded the Council members that even if there is not money available it is important to keep gifted education in front of the legislature every year.

Mr. Dorman agreed to draft a letter to legislator. The Council agreed they would ask for a specific amount of funding for each gifted child, and recommend that it go back under low income.

ADJOURN

Mr. Mohaupt moved that the meeting be adjourned. Mr. Dorman seconded the motion and it passed with a unanimous voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 2:50 p.m.

NEXT MEETING DATE

The next Illinois Gifted Advisory Council Meeting will be held on April 21, 2015.