

Gifted Education Advisory Council-ISBE
December 5, 2011
9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

Roll call

Participants in attendance: Sally Thomson, Sally Walker, Terry Mohaupt, Laura Beltchenko, Diane Beedy, Jennifer Gendel, Nan Ochs

Approval of Minutes

Public participation

We are looking for a new member of the council. It would be preferable to get someone from southern Illinois.

Old Business

Gifted Certification-Linda Tomlinson

We are in the process of shifting from a certificate to a licenser certificate. As we are looking at gifted education as we start to shift to focus on growth and individual needs of the students it is important to look at all students. The advisory was asked to think about recommendations. It will be helpful if we have a plan of action that includes recommended coursework needed and plan of action. How will the plan be phased in? We do not want to create a shortage as part of this process.

- Teachers who are endorsed in gifted is important.
- Teachers who understand the needs of gifted and how to differentiate will be necessary.
- Administrators need to understand gifted education.
- A shift in looking at growth for gifted students.
- NAGC standards should be aligned to any required assessment.
- A test has been developed that goes with the standards (knowledge, performance). It has been piloted and commented on by experts in the gifted field. It would need to be adapted to the current standards.

We will need a follow up meeting to discuss these issues. There will be about a 6 month process to make/change the rules. There will be a state employee who will actually write the rules. The advisory council members need to decide what rules we would recommend.

What do we need to put in place before we meet with Linda again at the end of Spring? We will need to have a meeting of a subcommittee work group to make sure that we are prepared for the Spring meeting.

We would like to have a 2 day meeting where we met with Linda for a half day in the afternoon then the next morning we would meet with the stakeholders in the morning and then reconvene in the afternoon.

Update on joint work of ISAC and the Gifted Advisory subcommittee-Sally Thompson

Wanted to jointly decide how we could best provide for Twice Exceptional children by providing awareness. A smaller group was formed to continue exploring. The group met in the summer to create a plan for the group.

The group looked at a document put out by the State of Colorado. The document seemed to be reader friendly and it presented accurate and up to date information. The group recommended that the document out of Colorado would be a link from our site. The ISAC did want to have this as a link from

their site. Sally Walker will attend the ISAC meeting to represent the Gifted Advisory. Sally would like to continue meeting with this group. How would funding of our staff to be part of this meeting happen? Would we like to co-sponsor a professional development event?

Terry Mohaupt gave a motion to have Twice-Exceptional Students Gifted Students with Disabilities from the Colorado Department of Education. By doing this we are endorsing this as our official stance on twice-exceptional students. We would like this to be a resource. Motion was passed.

Group would like to continue the partnership with the ISAC. We will need to decide what the next steps will be as to what Illinois does for gifted.

New Business

State of the Nation in Gifted Education-Laura Beltchenko

What do administrators know about gifted education? What are the resources that are currently available? In some areas of Illinois the administrators were using outdated information. The charge of the Gifted advisory subcommittee. ASCD smart brief is something that almost all administrators go to.

Discussion of the State of the Nation in Gifted Education PowerPoint. Information about gifted programs need to be documented so that it is not staff dependent.

Common Core Update-Laura Beltchenko, Mike Hatfill, Sarah McCusker, Joyce Krumtinger

There are support staff members who are content area specialists to work on the implementation of the Common Core. Staff are to help support the learning of students in the schools.

This is the first state wide effort where everyone is hearing the same and consistent message. A series of 6 modules in math professional development were created (Introduction, Standards of Content, Standards of Progress, Assessment, Mathematic practices-change in instruction, Ideas and problems for staff to use).

There will be outlines created that say what is critical and not critical to teach in the various grade levels.

There will be trainers that will be training adult learners in the Common Core.

ELA is also working on creating training materials and products.

Science and Social Studies are also in the works—It is difficult to have common ss core. Both should be ready for review in the next year. They should be available by 2013. Science will probably be out before SS.

Gifted Rules

There is no money available for gifted. Discussion deferred until future date.

ESEA Flexibility Waiver-Marcy Johnson

Illinois is going to be applying for an ESEA Flexibility Waiver. Maribeth Carlini presented this information to give an overview of the waiver. It is not a retreat from accountability. It will provide flexibility, protect students and set a high bar. Flexibility means new assessment, college and career readiness standards. Flexibility for teachers will be based on student growth. Several different measures. A culture where teachers can target instruction. Flexibility for parents will mean getting an objective report of student progress. More informative report. Less emphasis on a single test and more emphasis on preparing students for college and careers.

The state needs to apply to the Department of Education for all 10 Principles. Illinois will submit by mid February.

Adjourn