

TAGAC December 16

Meeting: December 16, 2019 @ Ferdinand T. Day School

Current TAGAC Members Present: Laura Rose, Kathleen Sheehy, Leigh Dugan, Mark Lacy, D. Ohlandt, Donna Brearley, Reese DuPont, Zion Bezu, Lindsey Clarke, Julia Egy

Additional Guests Present: Michelle Rief, School Board Member

Old Business:

New Business:

Bill Knudsen, National Association for Gifted Children

@NAGCGifted #GiftedMinds

- NAGC: gifted children are fully valued and universally recognized
- Supports those who work with gifted kids
  - o Education
  - o Advocacy
  - o Community building
  - o Research
- Change Minds / Change Policies / Change Practices
- Policy strategy
  - o "See Me": equitable identification
    - Multiple criteria, local norms, non-discriminatory procedures
  - o "Teach Me": accountability to monitor progress
    - Gifted students as explicit category for accountability, comprehensive state support
  - o "Challenge Me": stimulating development through acceleration
    - Acceleration strategies
  - o "Understand Me": professional development about gifted learners
    - Robust resources, high quality intensive professional development
- Organizational strategy
  - o Nurturing grassroots advocacy at the state level
  - o Targeting policy makers in the most influential states
  - o Build on past work
  - o Empower political organizers and advocates
  - o Emphasize meaning/value/importance
  - o Demonstrate impact

- Washington State: strategy for equity in funding
- Arizona State: state budget for gifted education, legislative visit
- Illinois State: legislative advances
- Michigan State: technical assistance package on acceleration
- Maryland State: progress getting gifted labeled a subgroup
- Connecticut State: if you deny services, you have to explain why
- Best practices:
  - Local norms, building norms
    - “varsity team” analogy: your district may not have a championship team but you don’t eliminate the varsity team just b/c only 1-2 players is “championship” calibre
  - Multiple assessments (inclusive, not exclusive)
  - Robust professional development
    - Social-emotional needs of gifted students
      - PBIS

#### Staff Updates (Donna)

- Dr. Cash
  - has visited almost all elementary schools
  - his consultant working in our middle schools
  - returning in January with report and recommendations
    - differentiation training for GenEd teachers as well as TAG teachers
    - working with the Assistant Principals to provide training given to Principals
- Talent Search Team – pilot group this spring
- Local norms, building norms – exploratory study using this year’s NNAT and COGAT scores
- Will have analysis of impact of new referral deadline at next meeting

#### Staff Updates (Dr. Mann)

- superintendent’s budget will be presented at end of January
  - requests to expand Young Scholars, etc – assuming these will be mostly included

#### Other comments

- Zion Bezu and Reese DuPont raised possibility of advocating for TAG specialist counselors in all schools

#### Nov 18 meeting minutes

- Leigh Dugan moved to approve minutes
- D. Ohlandt second
- Approval passed

Upcoming meetings:

- Deep dive on the past two presentations and how to incorporate them into our work for this year