

Gifted Advisory Committee Meeting

December 2, 2014

Meeting began at 4:05 p.m. in room 137 at Central Office.

In attendance: Sue Fulkerson, Jackie Wiegel, Laurie Osberg, Michelle Kooiker, Melissa Greer, Pam Cernocky, Doug Auleta, Kim Hill Phelps, Dianna Zeegers

Reviewed minutes from April 15, 2014 meeting and approved.

Shared "Something to Think About" article about malnutrition in academics for gifted students, written by Dr. Tracy Cross in October 2014, *Gifted Child Today*.

Shared calendar of events and completed and upcoming programming for visual and performing arts. Drama for 5th grade elementary and middle school students was held in November with a playwright from Los Angeles. Elementary worked on improv and incorporating elements of costume and props for effective acting. Middle school wrote, directed, practiced, and presented a play in 3 ½ hours.

Teen Conference event is December 5. Sixty-three students from Eau Claire, Altoona, and Chetek-Weyerhaeuser will attend. Facilitator is Deb Douglas who has worked with teens and teen advocacy for many years. Students will learn strategies to develop long term plans and then advocate for their needs.

Reminded to use the "Wish List" from the district Eau Claire Foundation to support students to be able to participate in gifted programming that may have an expense or transportation item linked to it.

Updated handbook was shared. Committee felt it may be too much information in academic language for general parent and community population. The audience will be specifically to staff within the district and outside people considering moving to Eau Claire for a more complete guide to gifted education. A concept map of identification and programming in the district without as much academic language and a friendlier package is planned. Alternate media forms will also be considered to include a possible video. The goal is an easy access document for EC4T through grade 12. Laurie Osberg has volunteered to help with this document. Goal is to complete and share out a draft at the next meeting in February with a completed document ready for review in April.

Updates were shared for creativity and staff development provided during the 2014-15 school year.

Evaluations for 6th grade placement was discussed. The letter for permission to evaluate going to all 5th grade parents will be sent the week of December 15. Information meetings will be held at each middle school in January. Review of the PP proved that it needs to be redone to be specific to the purpose of the meetings – information about the letter – and the implications of the assessments and placement recommendations. Pam will redo the PP and send out to the Gifted Advisory Committee by December 5 for review and updates. Discussion and recommendations were valuable and much appreciated to help guide parents to make decisions for their child in the next school year.

Thank you to Michelle Kooiker for taking minutes of the meeting. Meeting was adjourned at 5:45 p.m.