

Gifted Advisory Committee Minutes

September 17, 2013

Gifted Advisory Committee Mission: To continually learn and collaborate with parents, teachers, and administration providing a variety of perspectives that will impact gifted and talented student learning and achievement in areas of academics, music, art, drama, creativity, and leadership in the Eau Claire Area School District.

The meeting was called to order at 4:05 p.m.

Present were: Melissa Greer, Heather Iverson, Rich Spindler, Kelly Gallagher, Laurie Osberg, Joel Southworth, Jen Lohmann, Tim O'Reilly, Pam Cernocky

Updates:

Minutes were reviewed. The Calendar of Events was discussed and included elementary, middle, and high school activity reports: Awesome Algebra information shared. Introduction of attendees and perspectives they bring to the committee.

Learning Opportunities:

Article: *The Significance of Grit: A Conversation with Angela Lee Duckworth*, by Deborah Perkins-Gough. Discussion included the different perspectives teachers, parents, and administrators have and the importance of social emotional health for all children, the gifted and high ability in particular. The emphasis of the article is on hard work and persistence. The committee discussed the importance of those skills in order to help students be successful in their choices at school and then into life beyond. Social/emotional health, citizenship, and persistence may be more important than academics in isolation.

The Gifted Education Plan draft was shared with the group for review and comment. A correction to the front page was to change the word "mission" to "vision". The Parent/Guardian Handbook was discussed. The questions: who is the audience for information about gifted programming in ECASD and how do we get the information out to those stakeholders? The list:

Who:

- Elementary, middle, and high school parents
- Students
- New parents to the district
- Administration
- Guidance counselors
- School psychologists
- New students and parents receiving interventions

How:

- Website
- School offices
- Chamber of Commerce
- Teachers & administrators

Exit cards were completed to determine the agenda for the next meeting scheduled for January 23, 2014, at 4 – 5:30 p.m. in room 137 at the Board Office. Agenda for January from exit card input, learning opportunity for social emotional support for gifted and high ability population, changing role of GT resource teachers, and upcoming events – Awesome Algebra & evaluations. Meeting ended at 5:30 p.m.