

Gifted Advisory Council Meeting Minutes
Ohio Department of Education
December 11, 2019 - 1:00 p.m.

Call to Order and Welcome

Joseph Petrarca called the meeting to order and asked all attendees to introduce themselves. Meeting norms and the council purpose were reviewed, along with an overview of the day's agenda.

ODE Updates

Based on meeting feedback, future Gifted Advisory Council meetings will begin at 12:30 and end at 3:00 p.m.

Joe thanked council members for their input on Gifted Advisory Council bylaws and directed them to review the updated version in their packets, which is currently under review by ODE's legal office.

Chair and Chair-Elect Votes

Council members reviewed results from a Spring 2019 survey in which chair and chair-elect candidates were nominated. Those nominated by survey respondents were Colleen Boyle, Curt Bradshaw, Kim Frasure, Susan Larson, Sarah Lee and Kelli Tebbe. Colleen and Kim withdrew their names. After much discussion, Curt was nominated for Chair and Sarah was nominated for Chair-Elect. All council members voted in agreement and none opposed.

Review and Approve October 2019 Minutes

October 2019 meeting minutes were approved as presented. Ann motioned, Hindy seconded, and all members voted in agreement.

Gifted Education Updates

Gifted Education Specialists Mike Demczyk, Maria Lohr and Jeff Shoemaker presented an overview of the gifted data story. Council members broke into four groups to review and discuss the information shared, then respond to three discussion questions.

Question 1: What are your reactions to the data?

- Not surprised, but horrified
- Our districts do not have overall population numbers, so how do we identify them and have an impact?
- Raises further questions about accuracy of reporting data and cultural sensitivity
- We need to fix the assessment list
- Couldn't we put students on an "unofficial WEP?"
- Funding and staffing are needed
- Pervasive perception that assessments identify too many
- Surprised by Asian over-representation
- Surprised by white economically disadvantaged discrepancy – where is this seen?
- What is the data internationally – would like to see the actual numbers
- Hispanic population is (slowly) growing

Question 2: What suggestions do you have to close the identification gap?

- Money needs to follow identifications for gifted services; this would help make it a priority to administrators
- Talent development model – professional learning as a priority for all

- Fund higher ed opportunities for representative populations to work with students – big picture talent tool
- Look at additional areas of identification, such as athletics and leadership
- Create culturally based profiles for students from diverse backgrounds
- Multi-pronged approach to gifted – rural, suburban
- More psychologist teams with matrix
- Equity of funding
- Research possible barriers
- Could typology areas help define guidance for what tests to use?
- OAGC could share about different assessments, how they're being used and the results
- Teach teachers to use data from “gifted tests” for more than gifted – may help educate teachers on identification and recognition
- How could special education processes help? Observations, psychologists, interventions?
- Use the term “intervention” as part of the identification process
- Higher level thinking, exposure to experiences, etc., before identification testing occurs
- If this is a national trend, then this may not be an identification crisis

Question 3: What additional data points should we consider?

- Typology data for geographical region, race and ethnicity
- What assessments are districts actually using
- Are current teachers teaching well?
- Identification for low SES in cognitive versus achievement
- Send out new rural report / Purdue data
- Look at how populations of students have changed over the years
- Gender breakdown
- Specific breakdown of numbers in the data, not just bar graphs

PowerPoint slides with further information are available in the [Gifted Advisory Council December SharePoint folder](#), or upon request.

Council Members' Updates

Council members gave various updates and announcements from their regions.

Next Steps and Closing Comments

Next meeting dates: February 12, 2020 and April 29, 2020.

The meeting adjourned at 3:20 p.m.