

# **Gifted Advisory Council Meeting Minutes**

**Ohio Department of Education, Room 102**

**April 24, 2019**

## **Call to Order**

Becky Furbay and Council Chair Dwayne Arnold welcomed all Council members, ODE staff and guests to the meeting. Council members and staff introduced themselves.

February 2019 meeting minutes were reviewed. Colleen requested that the minutes be amended to include her request that a gifted education professional be included on the assessment committee. Colleen motioned to approve February 2019 minutes with this amendment. Suzanne seconded the motion and all Council members voted in agreement.

## **Update from the Chairman**

Dwayne announced that he has accepted an exciting opportunity to go to work for North Point ESC as their Gifted Supervisor and will resign from the Gifted Advisory Council. Dwayne thanked his fellow Councilmembers for allowing him to serve.

Dwayne was asked by OEC leadership to become the Council Chair, but the group agreed it would be good to have a nomination process and vote going forward. Beth will send a survey for nominations, and a voting survey will be shared later. The group agreed that bylaws should be written in the near future.

## **Assessments RFQ Update**

Lisa Chandler said Department staff are working with our legal office to finalize the assessments RFQ. This has been an extremely thorough cross-office project, with 78 separate elements evaluated for each submission. We know the list is needed as quickly as possible for districts, and we expect to have final approval by Friday the 26<sup>th</sup>.

## Questions and Comments

–We are concerned about the gifted assessments; the very young children that will be identified for years. The impact of correct identification is so vital.

*The Department agrees with your concerns. It is a very complicated process and it can't be rushed. The length of time to get this done should decrease over time, but of course we always want the best list possible.*

–What was the outreach to vendors at the beginning of March about the RFQ being out?

*We emailed all vendors that were on the transition grace period list and the list from last year. We did hear from some districts that they had encouraged the vendors to apply.*

Colleen said she reached out to all vendors about the RFQ being open. Stephanie thanked Colleen for doing this and said maybe in the future the Department could work with Colleen to be sure we are reaching out to the correct people.

## **Gifted Regional Meetings**

For some time, OEC has conducted Gifted Regional Meetings annually throughout the state. For the last couple years, we have held them in September. Our plan for this year is to hold at least five in different areas of the state. We need feedback on possible locations and topics.

#### Feedback:

- EMIS 101 Overview
- Professional Development 101 – Gap year discussion
- Related Services
- Recognizing Schools
- Twice Exceptional
- How to Navigate Technical Information on Test Uses
- Parent Meetings

#### **Gifted Innovative Service Applications**

OEC staff met with the subcommittee that is reviewing the Gifted Innovative Service Applications, and they should be released soon.

#### **Self-Report**

Staff have been making revisions to the self-report based on feedback from the subcommittee and we hope to have it out soon.

#### **Criteria for Recognizing Schools**

Maryland and Mississippi have interesting processes for recognizing schools, with very different approaches.

#### Mississippi

- Identification comes through monitoring of their 144 districts
- Every program is monitored once every three years using a rubric
- Districts can receive a designation of exemplary or excellent performance
- Since 2016, 26 districts have earned exemplary and two have earned excellent

Wendy distributed the rubric for review and discussion.

#### Maryland

- Their program is a self-selected application process called Excellence in Gifted and Talented Education (EGATE)
- Recognition is done by school, not by district
- An annual event is held for showcasing the schools
- Their process is much like our PBIS model with a special focus related to equity

Wendy distributed Maryland's application and feedback form for review.

#### Comments and Feedback

- I wonder how many ODE staffers it would take to do this
- I like the Mississippi approach because all districts are being reviewed
- The alignment to operating standards eliminates some of the possible bias
- I like that Maryland looks at it through an equity lens
- At the last meeting we talked about a two-pronged approach; this sort of looks like those two combined
- This sounds like another thing for the district to do, and it needs to be approached as a positive
- You have to reconcile the report card indicator with this
- It would be good if the Department aligned recognition models
- ESCs being a hub is an excellent idea
- Marry it with self-reports, because we're already doing that

Craig pointed out that this group previously talked about recognizing individuals and asked if we should wait on this until we have our process finalized or roll it out in phases. The consensus of the group was that phases is the preferred approach.

#### **Council Members' Updates and Questions**

–Is the self-report going to be filled out and emailed as in the past or will it be in the compliance center in SAFE?

*It will be in Survey Monkey this year – our goal is to eventually have it in SAFE.*

–When will innovative services approvals take place? Will the winners be posted on the ODE website? Also, please load some of the exemplars' submissions on the website.

*The first notification will be on May 3rd and the final notification will take place a couple weeks after that, then the information will be loaded on our website in June.*

–Will the subcommittee give us feedback on our rubric?

*Becky said the Council should review the process at the first meeting next year.*

Council members agreed on October 23, 2019, December 11, 2019, February 12, 2020 and April 29, 2020 for future meeting dates.