

*GATE Advisory Council Notes
November 9, 2017*

6:15pm

Introductions around the room.

6:20pm

Agenda-

Pressing issues

Site News

GATE Master Plan

Pull outs and conference debrief

Pop-ups

Testing and Identification

Parking Lot discussion

MASTER PLAN

Almost there! Hope to go to the board in December/January. It's posted on the website. Comments or suggestions due by 12/1.

ROB- It is very important the LCAP meetings were to attend because there isn't enough funding to go around and it's important that your voices are heard if you want the things you find important to be noted. Come see me to go over how we compare to other districts. Neighboring districts have a local tax, we don't have that.

SC- Other districts up and down the coast use this local tax to help with revenue.

ROB- My paperwork can show you not only how much they've done, but how they've done it and what could pass.

JB- Can you give us a bit of background on the state's roll on this issue regarding funding.

ROB- 10 years ago we took a huge hit with funding, then funding formula was changed to make it more equal and help close that gap- but that didn't work either. The LCAP is your local committee that can determine where the money goes. (Local Control Accountability ???)

SC- Categorical is special funding- ELL and Special Ed are still the areas that receive these.

JA- Possible full time or 2 half times for middle schools for GATE. And a .2 for a dedicated GATE coordinator at each site. (Continued to review the master plan and discuss overall budget changes.)

6:30pm

JA- Pull Out and Conference Debrief

Positives- awesome ideas but where were the parents?

Concerns- Where were the teachers?

What to improve? Parallel sessions for kids would get more kids to attend. Why not parallel session for teachers also?

We can bring in Nathan Levy for a small fee to one of our Parent Ed Talks.

6:45pm

Pullouts

JA- Exhausting, but amazing. I spent the month of October at Gross Park. The kids got into the beads. I will pick two winners to get a KEVA plank set for their Science room. We videod their work and they are being uploaded so kids will be able to access them.

PA- How many planks are in the Keva kit?

JA- A lot, like 100 or more.

PA- Maybe we could earmark companies that would want to partner up with us to donate Keva planks and other things like that for subject specific materials.

JA- Here are some student made videos from the pull out- The Amazing Race.

7:05pm

Pop Ups

JA- We need support. I can't make it happen alone. The one the kids want is another Escape Room.

PA- My husband could help us create this.

JA- I would love the help in any way it comes. Riddle relays and math relays- incorporating mental and physical tasks. They loved the obstacle course. They also loved to do art- things that combine different things with what they love. I'd like to do 3 before June and I need to look for spaces that are better suited for these events.

PA- I will look for a few places that I can get maybe for free.

SF- When do you want to meet?

JA- Just email me and tell me when you are available and what you can do.

7:20pm

Testing and Identification

New test was better in identifying more kids into GATE.

The test is timed.

New information will go out December.

PA- What's the cutoff for retesting a student.

JA- It's helpful to have the HOPE nominations for a new student, but not necessary for kids that are being retested if we have it on file.

SF- What about testing younger kids?

JA- There is so much settling going on in K-3 that there really isn't a good measure for testing them. It's better to prescreen and keep an eye on them so that they can be identified in late 3rd grade.

PA- Exact test dates?

JA- The week we come back from winter break. Nominations happen now. We will have an informational meeting in December for 3rd grade parents and others. Screener is done first to all 3rd graders and then select students do the full test who qualify.

7:50pm

Communication

PA- Our principal reinforces all GATE information that is sent out by the district.

Discussion regarding how to access email and send effectively to the larger parent body regarding GATE events. SC will find out how to support Curriculum Specialist in getting the emails out to everyone through Aeries.

JA- Tentative topic- Cognitive Rigor

How to really make GATE kids' brain work and buzz without a lot of work. Coming up on December 4th.

8:20pm

JB- CTY- John Hopkins' Center for Talented Youth. What is your opinion on this?

JA- We have 1 teacher who has worked with them. This would be to test them to see which program they would qualify to do. It's an online test. This year I want to make sure more kids know about this program. It is a straight pencil and paper test for the pre- SAT for 5th and 6th grade students. Don't have one for 7th/8th graders.

SC- If you go the college board website, there are other universities that have similar offerings.

JA- There are high school programs that will offer something similar.

JB- Are there different levels of giftedness and what are we doing for them?

JA- We are looking to create something for them. LAUSD has different levels like highly gifted, moderately gifted, academically enriched, etc. They offer different schools such as magnets to address these specific needs. We don't have that available here.

PA- What about in high school?

JA- Some parents feel they aren't being part of the GATE community because they don't feel like it applies to them. I could bring in some students to discuss how they are developing in high school.

PA- Maybe a kid session- what are you expecting to get out of high school?

JA- GATE kids flock with each other to KEY Club in high school- philanthropy oriented.

PA- GSA- Gay Straight Alliance- very social justice minded.

Meeting adjourned 8:30pm.

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