

GATE Advisory Council Notes
May 1, 2017

6:20pm

Introductions. Went around room and introduced District Personnel and then individual introductions.

Parking Lot Concerns:

CA: Someone volunteers to be the school's GATE rep and then those reps should come to these council meeting.

JEN: We have site GATE coordinator meeting this Friday- first ever!

CA: Show new people how to find website for GATE page and sign up for our mailing list.

JEN: This is how we do it and I also upload something fun for kids to do. There is also a blog.

HG: Can you encourage the teachers to tell the kids this is available and remind them?

JEN: Absolutely.

CA: ILP's. If a parent wants their child on an ILP, whom do I speak to?

JEN: ILP's are for a very specific group of kids not performing on grade level. We did speak about this in the master plan meeting. We have kids doing algebra in Kinder- we need a plan for them that doesn't involve sending them to middle school at age 6.

You always have the right to invite me to a meeting and let me secure that meeting with teachers to see what capacity they want me to participate.

Deeper vs more. Learning contracts, menus, etc. We've been doing PD on this.

CA: How do parents request this?

JEN: Ask to speak to the teacher and use words like learning contracts, menus, etc.

PAR: What if you speak to a teacher and they aren't listening to you?

JEN: Chain of command- teacher, principal, district personnel like me, then Assistant Supt. Intd.

6:40pm

JEN: GATE conference in fall. If you have any parents that can do a break out session on parenting a GATE student, etc, please reach out to them and let them know to be in touch with me. It would be great to have that input from the parent perspective. The date is October 7th.

JB: Online flyer- if you can make one for me in May/June, I can post it all over the place- even if it is a general, then later, we can send a more detailed one.

JEN: I can definitely do a Save the Date type of flyer. If you can jot down your ideas on our big chart paper for sessions you would like to see, please feel free to do so.

We always run out of time to do the parent talks. What about doing business meetings every other month and doing the talks in between?

ALL: Nods in agreement.

JEN: Current events in the district related to GATE. We had over 168 people in attendance and we had no technology. B & N night was also great- 21 kids showed up.

CA: Have we considered the text alerts?

JEN: Might not happen if I am in charge of it, but we can talk about it. GATE professional development was held Stevenson Elementary and also at Luther Social Studies- innovative teaching and learning. District-wide training encompassed after school learning – ways to engage the learners.

Roosevelt discussed menus and choice boards
Mindfulness workshop was very well received.

Coming up, there will be some curriculum writing with teachers- June 5th and 7th and a site coordinator meeting this coming Friday.

DA: Having this coordinator meeting in advance, it will help us with a master plan for the year, and everyone will know what we are doing and how it will look for each site's coordinators.

PAR: How will funding be affected?

JEN: We won't get any new federal funding, so if it does affect us, it won't affect us this year.

6:55pm

GATE Master Plan...

JEN: We have standards and actionable items to share. They are the foundation of the plan. We hope to be meeting the goal of a 1st read to the board on June 2nd and second read June 15th.

We welcome continued feedback throughout the process. Think: What do I feel is the essential to see in the master plan? Is it addressed in the action items?

Go ahead and take 10 minutes and look through this master plan and the program design and make notes.

Discussion on using program design 2-page document works for the master plan and then the action items follow in detail. And maybe a scaled down version in a tri fold brochure for parents. And we post it on the website as well.

CA: If we go to this new format- important to include that a student makes one year's growth from wherever they began the school year.

JEN: It forces the idea of formative assessment throughout the year to help you keep track of a student's progress throughout the year. I do tell students I am a detective and that I want to see what you know.

This has been a fast moving year for things getting done. Teachers have been exposed to a lot of professional development and then have requested it at their school site- they want more of what they were exposed to initially. This is exciting.

Giving flexibility to students to sit or stand or move around helps GATE students who are movers work better and it becomes easier for all students to stay on task and be engaged.

7:20pm

Budget Review

JEN: That 40,000 will remain for next year. And Jen went through the line items. LCAP- local controlled accountability plan. We are ok with this incoming year, but then the LCAP people will have to sit and reallocate the funds based on availability of money for the next school year.

General discussion ensued.

Steve Hubbell's AP Presentation

Teaching AP chemistry and Physics and Honors Chemistry. There are some AP classes for 9th graders, but it is a different change of gears in general.

AP program is run by College Board. AP has been around since 1955.

Students have the opportunity to challenge themselves by pursuing college level studies while still in high school.

COURSE

Earns an extra GPA Point.

A= 5

B= 4

C= 3

No GPA point for a D or an F

EXAM

First two weeks of May

Passing an AP exam with a 5, 4, and 3 may earn college credit advanced placement or both in College.

Not all universities give credit.

AP classes offered at Burroughs

Music theory

Studio art

English Literature

Language and Composition

European History

Us History
Government
Psychology
Micro Economics
Spanish
French
German
Ecology

And more!

National Pass rates slide shown with percentages.

Easy Pass

Chinese
Spanish
Calculus AB
Studio Art
Calculus BC
Physics C

Hard Pass

Physics 1
Environmental science
Government and Politics
US History
European History
Chemistry

Discussion about classes/exams being taken vs pass rate.

Slide shown for cost of a UC/USC vs cost of one AP exam- \$93.

Ivy leagues don't take a lot of these exams, but the "state schools" are more likely to. Check with each college and your high schools counselors.

I tell the kids- have a 4 year plan and spread the courses out so you are not taking them all at once.

10th graders- AP Euro, then plan it out throughout the years.

JEN: Sometimes kids have their own plan and it's not necessarily a good one and they are hard to dissuade. Have a conversation with kids all the time to make sure they are making wise and balanced choices.

SH: Take what you are passionate about. A great AP calculus student does not always equal a great AP English student. Sometimes it's time crunch time and you have to help kids manage it all.

Expectations of an AP Student

I minimum of 1 hour per night studying per AP class.

Percentage of test grade is higher than normal classes.

Students are required to take the AP exam.

Consider getting a tutor... like hiring a professional trainer when you are a professional athlete so that you are that much better of an athlete.

There is a free and reduced lunch test fee of \$5 for kids who can't afford the test.

References also included in the power point.

CA: Will you post this on the GATE website? IS there any testing talk about moving the SBAC testing until after the AP test time period so that students don't have both at once?

SK: There is a limited window in which to take the test. School year beginning earlier has made it better for us to teach for the AP classes and tests.

JEN: We have been looking at the socio-emotional needs for GATE kids as it pertains to the AP classes and making a comprehensive schedule throughout the year so that they can manage it all much better during high school.

This is our last meeting of the school year. Look for us in September.

Meeting adjourned: 7:55pm