

GUSD (GES) GIFTED EDUCATION SERVICES PARENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The GES Advisory Committee is composed of parents, educators, district specialists, and board members. The goals of the GES Committee are to: 1) strengthen our ability to accommodate for unique strengths of students, 2) increase community awareness of GUSD’s approach, 3) support teacher-practices of differentiation, and 4) support parent education with related resources.

AGENDA for December 4th, 2020 4:15-5:15

Time	Topic/Activity	Purpose
4:15	Opening <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Review Agenda topics, notes taken/disseminated ● Site check-ins 	<input type="checkbox"/> Welcome <input type="checkbox"/> Information Collecting
	CogAT Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Appeals Process (6th Grade only this year? In-person testing) GUSD Math Clubs Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 219 invited participants, up from 175 last mtg. 	<input type="checkbox"/> Information Sharing
	Resources for Parents <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Communication Flow Chart (draft) ● ARBookfinder.com 	<input type="checkbox"/> Parent Communication <input type="checkbox"/> Gather Input
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Agenda Topics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ For next time 	<input type="checkbox"/> Information Gathering

5:15	Next Mtg. Feb. 16 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Appreciations	
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Parking Lot for questions:

December Questions:

December Mtg. Notes:

-Parents and teachers alike are enjoying the connection between Freckle and STAR 360 Test.

-Each school website is getting a Gifted Education link to information that is general AND site specific GE info

-CogAT update: retesting appeal process will be available to 6th graders this year (and possibly 5th depending how many). Appeals will be due sometime between late January and early February of 2021. Current 3rd graders will be tested in the fall of their 4th grade year since we won't be in person in January when 3rd grade usually takes the test. Next year's 3rd graders will be tested in January as normal. Question: what is the benefit of identifying giftedness with the CogAT (specifically 6th graders)? Answer: It's another piece of information that can help us educators understand students' learning profiles. It can be useful in specific situations, especially beyond elementary if there is ever a question about the appropriateness of a certain course for a gifted identified student.

-Math Club update -- not too late to join! 219 students currently active. There are varying degrees of activeness and involvement. Added the 3rd grade math club - 38 students

-Introduced a draft of a flow chart for gifted education communication (seeking input)

-Introduced ARBookfinder.com: great for finding age level appropriate books using student's lexile level as well (especially for students reading above grade level.) Also, Common Sense Media is

a good resource for determining age appropriateness of books.

-Question: Will we have parent nights like we have had in the past (virtually)? Answer: Yes, we can. Not scheduled at this time. What topics would be of interest to parents during this pandemic? The twice-exceptional learner topic is high on the list. Suggestion -- how about one with ideas and resources for parents who want to extend learning for their early finisher, but not necessarily virtually.

October Parking Lot:

- Are there options for students to share projects or their offline work (art, writing, building, etc)? It seems that what these students might appreciate is building learning communities that are deeper and different than what they are already doing (and I only know my child and her classroom, so please share if there are other things going on).
- Is there a reason why the math club zoom is only once a month? Not office hours, but the actual interaction?
- Is it too late for students to sign up for math club?
- How can we get in the 3rd grade math club?
- How is everyone disseminating information about GES to their school?
- I love these depth & complexity resources. I think it would be helpful to have the links accessible on our district website.

Oct. Meeting Notes:

-3rd grade math club “pilot” beginning end of Oct. (8 participants so far, teacher recommended)

-175 math club participants so far 4th - 6th

-Suggestions for supporting gifted learners at home

Depth of Knowledge, Depth and Complexity= high level questioning strategies

-Discussion about defining the role of the GES Parent Rep.

-Discussion about creating ways to provide English-language arts writing/reading/science/etc. “Clubs” or enrichment opportunities across schools or at the district level to reach more kids

-Discussion about whether it is reasonable for parents to ask teachers for “replacement” or “supplemental” curriculum for students who need/want more

(GES) Gifted Education Services
Committees & Schedule for 2020-2021

GES Teacher Advisory Committee:

from 3:00-4:00

- September 15
- October 20
- December 8
- January 12
- February 16
- April 6

GES District Parent Advisory Council:

from 4:15-5:15

- ▶ September 15
- ▶ October 20
- ▶ December 8
- ▶ February 16
- ▶ April 6

Brigitte Haley, Differentiation Specialist

Schools	Teacher Representatives	Parent Representatives
Brandon	Jenny Husak (5th)	Katie Joiner
El Camino	Ruthie Manzo (2nd)	Cressida Silvers
Ellwood	Jill Means (3rd)	Lisa Danhi
Foothill/GFS	Teri Briggs (4-6th)	Sarah Mills (FH) Silke Werth (GFS)
Hollister	Eric Prothero (5/6th)	Jeff Atlas/ Ericka TeSlaa
Isla Vista	Margie Ryckman (4th)	Deena Ferro
Kellogg	Sora Young (4th)	Kara Rocque
La Patera	Camille Vaughn (5th)	Greta Bruneel
Mountain View	Nate Latta (5th)	Tammy Taub Millington
Board Member Rep.		Carin Ezal
GES Advisory Council Teacher Rep.		Jill Means

