

**Douglas County School District
Gifted and Talented Task Force Meeting
Monday, September 19, 2016
3:30 p.m.**

*Minutes Approved
May 8, 2017*

MINUTES

Committee Members Present: Jennifer Spohr – GT Teacher- PHES/JVES
Kristy Reck – GT Teacher – CCMES/SES/PWLMS
Teri Jamin – Board Member
Jason Reid – Principal, PHES
Teresa Chamness – Parent

District Personnel: Brandon Swain, Director of Education Services – Area 4

Call to Order

Mr. Swain called the meeting to order at 3:37 p.m.

Public Comment

No public comment was offered.

Approval of Minutes of April 18, 2016

The minutes of April 18, 2016 were approved by consensus of those members in attendance.

Testing Process Review

Currently, students that come close to passing the 95%ile to get in to GT are being referred to the school psychologist for additional testing. The concern in doing the additional testing is that each school psychologist uses a different assessment. Mr. Swain met with the new Special Education Director and she feels that the testing can continue, as long as it does not start to overburden the school psychologists. It was noted that the entire assessment does not have to be given, only part of it. This additional testing needs to fall within the scheduled GT testing window for fall and spring to allow ample notification to parents. The assessment done through the school psychologists seems to be fulfilling the goal of identifying those students that may have trouble taking a timed test.

Access to Infinite Campus

The GT teachers are not able to access all students through Infinite Campus, only those students that are assigned to them at each site. This proves to be difficult when they are trying to access parent contact information to test a new student. The GT teachers are requesting access to all students in the District through Infinite Campus, if possible. Mr. Swain will try to find out the reason for the limited access.

Review of Middle School Schedule and Delivery of Services

Pau Wa Lu and Carson Valley middle school schedules are set-up very differently. Pau Wa Lu prefers that students get pulled out of their elective classes, rather than their core classes. We are not able to please everyone as some students want to be pulled from core classes and some from their elective. Many GT students are opting to drop GT in order to stay in band. A discussion ensued on how it might work to have the GT students clustered, but this would have to be discussed with the site principals. The Board Policy was written with the intent of GT being at the elementary level (grades 2-6), so the policy may have to be revisited now that 6th grade resides at the middle school.

Public Comment

No public comments were offered.

Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Submitted by,
Margaret Guzman
Douglas County School District
Education Services; Area 4