

September 11, 2019 meeting notes

Attendees (members' names bolded):

Linda Smith [PPS Director of TAG/IB], Shanice Clarke [PPS Director of Community Engagement], Margaret DeLacy [OATAG], **Scholle McFarland, Megan Robertson, Marnie Faust, Deborah F, Tanya Awabdy**, Amber Keller, Susan Rozensweig, Lane S, Yvonne King, Chris Luttkus

I. Call to Order

- A. Introductions
- B. Call for additional agenda items
- C. Announcements
 - 1. OATAG conference is coming up on October 26, 2019. The theme is twice-exceptional students “Celebrating Neurodiversity”. <https://www.oatag.org/conference.html>
 - 2. The district-wide TAG complaint submitted by 27 families last spring has been forwarded to the OR Dept of Ed. ODE has accepted the complaint and requested documentation from PPS, after which it will conduct an investigation. Contact Megan with questions or for more details: megan@outofcoffee.com

II. Old Business

- A. Bylaw changes:

Scholle motions to adopt 2019 language in clear replacement of 2017 language, Tanya seconds. After brief discussion, all members present vote to approve. **MEGAN** to update accordingly and publish to TAGAC webpages. <https://www.pps.net/Page/1548>

III. New Business

- A. Update from TAG department
 - 1. Nice to see so many familiar faces here tonight. :)

ACCESS enrollment update:
301 students enrolled as of today. 185 male, 116 female.

1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th
6m/2f	8m/5f	28m/14f	22m/14f	31m/13f	36m/20f	25m/25f	29m/23f

Waitlist: only three grades are without waitlisted students.

As per enrollment workgroup’s work last year, rolling enrollment (until December) is in place for the grades with no waitlist (a new application will be put up). Principal Ginger will facilitate that process in collaboration with Enrollment & Transfer and admission will be her discretion.

- Q: In some grades, are there female slots open (with waitlisted boys and no waitlisted girls)?
- A: Title IX changes may mean that we cannot hold spaces for females -v- males. Linda will find out how waitlist and fall transfer applicants play together.
- Comment: historically, new students were brought in for the second half of the year (February).
- Q: Do waitlisted students get preference for next year?
- A: No, but they will not have to complete a full application to be placed in the following year’s lottery.
- Q: What about ‘hardship’ transfer outside of this secondary application window?
- A: That is what this fall window is for.
- Q: How will this be publicized?
- A: Right - this is not meant to be an enrollment phase - it’s meant to support hardship transfer scenarios. TAG department is working with principals to communicate with students.
- Q: How many people are on the waitlist?
- A: Linda doesn’t know off-hand; that data lives in Enrollment & Transfer but Ginger has access as well.

2. There are 7577 TAG-ID'd individual students (some may be double or triple ID'd). This includes TAG potential IDs. That number includes IDs up through June 2019 (includes graduating students).
 3. NNAT-3 (Naglieri) will be used for universal 2nd grade testing this year. There is no reading on this test, which should benefit 2E and ESL students. Another benefit of the Naglieri is that it also provides a parent report.
 4. SBAC is now called OSAS (<https://osasportal.org/>). PPS has received last year's scores but not the percentiles yet. Results will go by USPS. For scores at 85th %ile and up, families will receive contact by TAG department to suggest nomination for identification.
 5. There will be two ID cycles starting this year (rather than just one). Students ID'd by the SBAC, universal 2nd grade testing or by MAP testing will be ID'd during the first half of the year. The spring ID cycle will be the testing by request.
Q: How will MAP scores be used?
A: The same way as SBAC/OSAS. It's a nationally-normed test so can be used for Math and Reading. Not every grade level at every school used the Reading MAP testing last year, so that will come online as the rollout continues. The TAG dept will also give Naglieri in other grades by request.
 6. The TAG dept holds a district-wide TAG facilitator meeting once a month for planning and professional development. Now that we have three TOSAs again, they are scheduling individual meetings with each school (principal & TAG facilitator together), spending about an hour to talk about expectations and goals. It's been really positive and connection-building. The new TOSA is Chris Smith. He has a high school background, former Lincoln teacher, experience at Gresham as well. TOSAs will make follow-up appointments with schools (mid and end of year).
 7. Professional development for new teachers and all instructional assistants. There are four PD opportunities for teachers.
 8. Four parent forums are scheduled 10/15, 12/3, 02/19, 04/15 6:30-8:00pm at BESC. OMSI dates are not yet set.
 9. Linda has been in collaboration with ESL community agents (?) at their Saturday Academy events to conduct outreach re: process. Also working with GEAR UP (<https://oregongearup.org/about>) in 9th & 10th communities.
- B. Marnie leads a TAG steering committee at Vestal, working with the TAG facilitator and principal to focus on TAG services. She has made sure that the allocated TAG money has been spent, at a minimum. Last year, worked on a language and writing workshop for all TAG students but ran out of time to hold it. The Vestal principal along with an EA are going to be teaching a pull-out this year (6-week pilot), focusing on 5th grade standards; it will be open to any TAG ID'd student.
1. Last year, they purchased Little Passports teacher edition, to be used in the 2019/2020 school year.
 2. Marnie keeps an email list (gathered voluntarily at TAG info night) and sends out info periodically (noting that recipients may be TAG ID'd families or interested families).
- C. TAGAC End of year report (2018-19)
1. Request that Linda please spearhead getting TAGAC a slot to speak to the PPS board. By late October or so. **NICOLE** and **TANYA** will be drafting the report.
- D. Outreach efforts
1. It is time to organize table/staffing for TAG events (OMSI, parent forums, etc.).
- E. Best practices for TAG identification at Title 1 schools
- Discussion of the allocation of Student Success Act funds. TAG and equity are not mutually exclusive. Let's propose something - Title 1 pilot program for example - request funds to hire a dedicated TAG TOSA to ID (appropriately for the community) and develop a program. [Tanya]
- Comment: money for staff development and acceleration may be available in other programs as well. [Margaret]

Comment: Linda suggests that Tanya & Nicole schedule a time to meet with her to discuss.

IV. Questions from guests

Q: Has there been discussion about acceleration paths in English for 9th or 10th graders? Coming out of ACCESS, the 9th grade English is essentially a repeat of what we did in 6th and 7th. Students are petitioning to bypass English 1-2.

A: No. The freshman academies are designed to provide community and personal contact so that kids' transition will be smoother (study skills instruction, learning cohorts, college readiness instruction). Sophomore cohorts are also in development.

Q: What about Virtual Scholars? I've been told it is for remedial purposes.

A: No, that's not right. But access is not guaranteed.

Q: What is the TAG budget per school?

A: It is held centrally, schools must request it. If the proposed use is TAG-appropriate and within the same historical level (\$1100) then TAG dept will approve.

Q: I tried to form a TAG parent group last year and did not have much success when I spoke to the TAG coordinator. I'm curious what is supposed to happen at TAG night and how to move forward on this.

A: As a parent, you have every right to speak up and say you'd like to form a parent group or mailing list, and invite people to join your list, etc.

Comment: 20 years ago, we identified parent liaisons at each school to share information, work with administration at the school, etc.

V. Meeting adjourned 8:10p