

Portland Public Schools TAG Advisory Council (TAGAC)

April 8, 2014 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

Meeting Minutes

Attending Members: Johanna Colgrove, Mark Feldman, D. Fleskes, Callie Love, Diana Ortiz, Amy Rueda, Brenda Ray Scott, Miriam Zellnik

Absent Members: Terese Bushnell, Virginia La Forte, Susan Lattimore, Mercedes Munoz

Attending Guests: Amy Manning, S.P. (name illegible on signin)

Attending PPS Staff: none

Absent PPS Staff: Roxanne Coleman, Kimberly Matier

I. Call to Order and Preliminaries

6:30

March minutes approved. It seemed like it would not be possible to officially extend the May meeting to 8:30. A number of members would not be able to stay.

II. Old Business and Unfinished Action Items (AI)

Brenda is able to arrange a speaker for the TAG 101.

III. Conversations with PPS

none this month

IV. Committee Sessions

The proposal seemed received pretty well in general. As expected, there were comments on areas we need to address.

Move Measure 1 to end so readers don't assume this is the main point and have an immediate negative reaction. Other concerns were how large ACCESS could become. We need to find some data to estimate this.

Measure 2: Indicate that this is not restricted to TAG students. Indicate somehow "proper placement" in the title. We may want to briefly address cost to add support for 6th grade math/reading in ES and other places if appropriate.

Measure 3: Note that SSA is now needed only for 2 or more grade level advancements.

Measure 4: Generally positive reception, but this section may be a bit disjointed and needs more thought, research and rewriting. Several examples of the Unit by unit approach given by attendees. Need to better address the "smart vs dumb" class misconception for unit by unit case. Miriam volunteered to make some graphics for this.

Measure 5: Wording about how to pay for school TAG Coordinator need to be careful so it does not result in other positions being cut at schools. Putting in terms of additional FTE per size of school could be a problem. Perhaps these TAG Coordinator tasks could be centralized.

The allocation of school TAG budget per student needs to be carefully considered. Some comments to effect that this would not be fair at under-identified schools. If given to teachers in a school where they did cluster grouping, one teacher would probably get more TAG students than others. So this does not work well in our framework. We need another way to distribute money. Suggestion to give schools general budget to the school based on total number TAG students at school. Or based on what percent of all students EXCEEDED on end of year tests. Or something based on student performance. There are problems here too. Maybe we need a new approach on giving money to schools to support TAG students and to help teachers get better access to materials for high end differentiation.

V. New Business

There seemed general consensus that an extra meeting in May would be a good idea.

VI. Questions and Comments from Guests

none

VII Adjourn

8:00

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday May 27, 2014 from 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

BESC (District admin. building) at 501 N. Dixon St, 97227 Mazama Room (second floor behind cafeteria)