

Portland Public Schools TAG Advisory Council (TAGAC)
February 10, 2015 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.
Meeting Minutes

Attending Members: Terese Bushnell, Johanna Colgrove, Mark Feldman, Deborah. F., Nicole Iroz-Elardo, Mike Marsden, Scholle McFarland, Diana Ortiz

Absent Members: Callie Love, Amy Rueda, Miriam Zellnik

Attending Guests: Jane Chaddick, Margaret DeLacey, Nadya Minaev, Martha Ruttle, Tamberlee Tarver

Attending PPS Staff: Toni Hunter, Andrew Johnson

I. Call to Order and Preliminaries

6:30

Mark setup a mail forwarder to make it easier to send email to all TAGAC members. tagac2014@ppstag.org. Any member not wanting to receive email on this should let him know. Anyone wanting to apply to be a member on PPS' Curriculum Committee should apply using the application in the meeting materials. Unfortunately, we do not understand the mission of this committee and Melissa was not there to explain. Melissa Goff had mentioned the Assessment Committee at the same previous meeting, but we do not know the mission of this committee either nor if we are being offered the opportunity to apply to that committee also. (AI) Toni Hunter will relay our request for clarification to Melissa. Margaret DeLacey gave a legislative update. Details about this and a document listing data on Oregon state spending on TAG, ESL and Special Education by group were distributed at the meeting and are appended to these minutes.

II. Old Business and Unfinished Action Items (AI)

Two TAGAC members have not showed up for over half the meetings this year, so according to Bylaws, will no longer be members unless we vote otherwise. Neither has responded to emails or a recent phone call. Mark would like one more month to try to contact them. Members raised no objections to a motion to remove the first meeting of the year from inclusion in the number of meetings this year, for Amy and Callie. This gives them one more month to attend a meeting to stall automatic removal. (AI: Mark) will make further efforts to contact them by email and phone.

No additional information on contact with Gwen Sullivan, but Terese is talking with the PAT representative at ACCESS and will also try to get some feedback on our Recommendations from ACCESS teachers. Johanna and Mark presented to the Portland Council PTA who advertised the Recommendations and the presentation to the Board on their websites. There were both positive and negative responses, which should remind us of the need to explain that TAG students deserve to have their needs met just as much as any other group of students. Mark requested that we continue to think about whether we should have any response to last year's Division 22 report and that final registration to run for School Board positions is in March. Next month we will talk about what position, if any, we may want to take with respect to the May elections.

V. New Business

Melissa Goff was not in attendance so we were not able to ask further about the status of PPS response to Recommendations nor ask about the list of research on heterogeneous math grouping. Scholle and Nicole are trying to find and encourage parents to testify in support of our Recommendations to the School Board.

V. Committee Sessions

None.

III. Conversations with PPS

Andrew Johnson, TAG Program Administrator, introduced himself, gave us a some personal background, and carried out a general discussion with members and guests.

VII Adjourn

8:30

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday March 10, 2015 from 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

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

Information from Margaret DeLacy <margaretdelacy AT comcast.net> on how to advocate for HB2815. (She posts regularly about this on a mailing list you can join by going to <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/XL-PDX/>)

Representative Julie Parrish has introduced House Bill 2815 which will provide substantial funding for Talented and Gifted (TAG) students. The funding increases in steps:

--For each year in 2015-17, the bill allocates \$250 per identified TAG student in districts with 75 or more identified TAG students and \$300 per identified TAG student in districts with fewer than 75 identified TAG students.

--in 2017-19 the bill allocates \$375 per TAG student each year

--in 2019-2021 *and thereafter* the bill allocates \$500 per TAG student per year.

If we assume that there will be 40,000 identified TAG students, by in 2019-21, the bill will provide \$20 million per year/\$40 million per biennium. This would be the first regular State funding for TAG to districts.

Here is what you can do:

- Write a thank-you note to Representative Parrish or Representative Gene Whisnant, who have co-sponsored the bill. Representative Hack has also said she will sign on to the bill.
- Ask your own representatives to sponsor or co-sponsor the bill.
- Ask your own legislators (both house and senate) to support the bill--remember, every Oregon legislator will eventually vote on every single bill. This is even more important if any of your legislators serve on an education committee.
- The bill currently has a referral to the House Education Committee and a subsequent referral to the Education Subcommittee of the Joint Ways and Means Committee.
- At the moment, the most important person for the bill is Representative Margaret Doherty, who represents Tigard and SW Portland, Metzger, King City and Durham . She has to schedule the bill for a hearing and then a work session in her committee or it automatically dies. Please contact Representative Doherty and ask her to schedule and support this bill. Last session it passed the House Education Committee on a unanimous vote, so this is a reasonable request.

Email: Rep.MargaretDoherty@state.or.us

Website: <http://www.oregonlegislature.gov/doherty>

<https://www.oregonlegislature.gov/doherty/Pages/map.aspx>

Phone: 1-503-986-1435

She is more likely to schedule a hearing if the other members of her committee tell her that they support it. You can find a list of the members of the House Education committee at

http://www.oatag.org/Resources/Documents/GovernmentRelations/How_to_participate_in_Oregon_Legislation.pdf

The bill would provide ongoing funding to districts for TAG services. You can find more information at

<http://www.oatag.org/Resources/Documents/GovernmentRelations/2015-02-13%20House%20Bill%202815.pdf>

More information on how to communicate with your own representatives can be found at

http://www.oatag.org/OATAG_in_Action

END

Estimated Spending per Student for Various Student

	Regular	Special Ed.	ESL	TAG
	Students	Students	Students	Students
2004-05 (estimate)	\$6,587	\$14,399	\$8,169	\$6,802
2005-06 (forecast)	\$6,916	\$15,263	\$8,986	\$7,142
2006-07 (forecast)	\$7,193	\$16,026	\$9,884	\$7,428
2005-07 Biennium Avg.	\$7,055	\$15,645	\$9,435	\$7,285

Source: Oregon Department of Education

Expenditures on TAG, ESL, and Special Education Oregon School Districts and ESDs

	Talented and Gifted (TAG)			English as a Second Language (ESL)			Special Education		
	General Fund	Special Funds	Total	General Fund	Special Funds	Total	General Fund	Special Funds	Total
1999-00	\$7,251,805	\$108,276	\$7,360,081	\$50,316,632	\$3,186,654	\$53,503,286	\$354,472,984	\$128,660,044	\$483,133,028
2000-01	\$7,656,583	\$128,235	\$7,784,818	\$60,025,238	\$3,322,358	\$63,347,596	\$403,278,883	\$136,625,565	\$539,904,448
2001-02	\$7,122,189	\$125,965	\$7,248,154	\$64,552,624	\$3,545,134	\$68,097,758	\$430,838,791	\$154,183,484	\$585,022,276
2002-03	\$7,849,441	\$202,651	\$8,052,092	\$70,614,204	\$5,441,204	\$76,055,408	\$437,694,422	\$166,602,383	\$604,296,805
2003-04	\$6,837,848	\$287,355	\$7,125,203	\$78,106,694	\$6,004,083	\$84,110,777	\$456,668,971	\$168,552,473	\$625,221,444
2004-05	\$7,317,600	\$172,384	\$7,489,984	\$87,891,308	\$5,550,245	\$93,441,553	\$480,527,141	\$199,225,610	\$679,752,751
2005-06	\$7,351,625	\$306,782	\$7,658,407	\$106,523,728	\$6,206,870	\$112,730,598	\$518,925,317	\$222,750,918	\$741,676,235
2006-07	\$6,435,786	\$278,921	\$6,714,707	\$117,310,833	\$6,149,455	\$123,460,288	\$553,499,352	\$230,055,955	\$783,555,307
2007-08	\$6,951,942	\$148,595	\$7,100,537	\$123,224,664	\$6,137,374	\$129,362,038	\$589,939,734	\$231,659,595	\$821,599,329
2008-09	\$7,403,723	\$324,984	\$7,728,707	\$130,780,057	\$6,348,531	\$137,128,589	\$605,441,907	\$240,299,246	\$845,741,153
2009-10	\$6,860,519	-\$235,318	\$6,625,201	\$126,712,498	\$4,203,614	\$130,916,112	\$622,095,824	\$259,906,946	\$882,002,770
2010-11	\$5,401,393	\$134,067	\$5,535,460	\$128,553,780	\$3,112,126	\$131,665,906	\$616,411,335	\$262,182,440	\$878,593,775
2011-12	\$5,050,574	\$104,174	\$5,154,748	\$129,112,540	\$3,191,781	\$132,304,321	\$645,533,905	\$220,553,915	\$866,087,820
2012-13	\$4,692,508	\$83,126	\$4,775,634	\$129,152,392	\$2,761,831	\$131,914,223	\$652,958,659	\$220,260,389	\$873,219,048

Revised
(p)= preliminary

Source: School district and ESD audited financial statements as reported to the Oregon Department of Education