

Portland Public Schools TAG Advisory Council
March 12, 2013 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.
Meeting Minutes

Attendance: Cathy Biber, Terese Bushnell, Michelle Cristiani, Amy Mason Doan, Jennifer Ellis, Deborah Fleskes, Mark Feldman, Tania Giger, Grace Groom, Michael Kubler, Lori Lachman, Mike Marsden, Mandy Mock, James Oellrich, Trace Salmon, and Brenda Ray Scott

Staff: Roxanne Coleman and Kimberly Matier

- I. **Called to Order:** 6:37 p.m.
- II. **Introductions / Announcements:** Each individual in attendance, with a few exceptions, shared the name of their favorite book and why.
- III. **Advocacy, Media, and Other News**

House Bill 2877 – Mike Kuebler – Hearing for the first time; Parrish seemed more familiar with TAG and the bill made it out of committee.

Portland Tribune: Brenda Ray Scott will follow-up with Jennifer Anderson including providing a copy of the survey results letter.

Oregonian: Brenda will follow-up with Nicole at The Oregonian.

Omamas: Brenda will follow-up with Amy Wang who has shared information about TAG in her writing.

- IV. **Minutes**
Consensus was to table discussion of the February, 2013 minutes until next meeting.

- V. **Update from PPS**
Dr. Kimberly Matier provided a very detailed report on her work with curriculum, differentiation, and professional development. Budget and the ACCESS Academy were also discussed. The following points are highlights of that discussion:

Shifting model to increase level of rigor, increasing understanding / training in differentiation;

Creating a framework to guide our discussions – additional resources;

Matrix: Bill Daggett source; embedded in common core; frame conversations about Bloom's taxonomy;

Analogy – Soccer – learning; scrimmage – you know the team; playing an unknown team i.e., on demand learning; variables constantly changing; how do we increase – lesson design and tasks;

Questions? Suggestions?

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Instructional resources – curriculum sets focused on problem solving type of learning; mandatory for every teacher – Socratic conversation;

Teach to highest learner including creating small groups with many lessons;

Constantly evaluating and considering, “How do we measure effectiveness?”;

Does this equal differentiation?;

What is the definition of TAG? Rate and level of learning;

Described the grouping and how that would work;

Kimberly has started a principal advisory committee for schools that are under-performing and students are under-challenged. She’s talked with students from other schools in focus groups; real world application; innovative and creative with the learning;

Budget: When asked about how TAG budget is affected, Kimberly confirmed that TAG services are the instruction that occurs in the core classroom. Professional development and additional curriculum services are separate line items. She also confirmed that administrators are being told that there is a “Tic Tac Toe Menu” from which to choose activities and that reminders have been sent. This process is in place for 7/1 – 6/30/13.

Amy asked if the Vice Principal component was being added as non-negotiable.

Action(s):

Brenda will connect with Kimberly (cc: Roxy);
Amy & Mark on the budget worksheets;
Brenda to clarify the timeline for budget forecasting;

RTI enrichment model / K-8 model: Grace asked about how the scheduling would impact the cluster groupings. Kimberly reported that she is working with principals on scheduling various offerings.

Enrichment: Kimberly met with Saturday Academy to negotiate a group discount through district. Saturday Academy content is specific to common core. Professionally taught Lego Robotics sessions will also be offered as a part of enrichment for TAG students.

Action(s):

Brenda will follow-up with Kimberly on the timeline for the implementation on this piece.

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ACCESS:

Meeting with Principal: The meeting with the Principal has been postponed to next week.

The discussion was passionate about TAG the TAGAC not advocating as a body for ACCESS or to actively engage in the discussion about choosing its next location.

Some expressed concern that ACCESS was taking students away from neighborhood schools. Others expressed the sentiment that TAGAC should be advocating for all PPS TAG students.

VI. Council Recruitment

Kimberly described efforts in outreach including creating a Parent Academy where parents get to:

- Sit and get familiar with TAG offerings
- Engage and learn
- Student experience

She has met with SEI and also the coordinator of sun schools. Outreach work is continuing.

VII. Work Plan Template

Discussion of this item was tabled to the next TAG Advisory Council meeting.

VIII. Charter

Discussion of this item was tabled to the next TAG Advisory Council meeting.

IX. TAG 101 Meeting

Discussion of this item was tabled to the next TAG Advisory Council meeting.

X. Bylaws

Discussion of this item was tabled to the next TAG Advisory Council meeting.

Next Meeting:

Tuesday, April 9 from 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

Location:

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

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