

Gifted Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

May 23, 2018

Amy called meeting to order.

Members present: Ann Marie Nielson, Judy Throop, Denise Baldwin, Amy Swartz

Others present: Nancy Zimmerschied, Cheryl Snyder, Amanda Wohler, Valeria Hughes, Annie Dickinson, Lynetta Rochelle, Terri Calhoun, Sarah Orr, Denton Long

Copies of the three Gifted Program Evaluations (Student, Parent, Teacher) were provided for review and to share with site teams. Copies were also provided to Principals at each site. Evaluations can be used to guide planning and preparation for site plans for the upcoming school year.

Each attendee at the fall meeting had been provided a copy of the District Gifted Plan and the Site Gifted Plans. Team may consider proposing updates to the District Plan in the fall, if needed.

Representatives from most sites were in attendance and invited to briefly share some successes from the plans implemented this school year.

Sarah Orr shared portions of the gifted programs she is involved in at Liberty and at Roosevelt. She provided a Music Enrichment class weekly and students could attend festivals and choir such as Circle the State and Orff Ensemble. Students also got to present their musical talents to our Board of Education during the year, as did the Orff Ensemble from Lincoln under the direction of Amy Muegge.

Amanda Wohler shared some more of the activities at Roosevelt this year. Students had the opportunity to learn about the history of Ponca City which included a visit to the Marland Grand Home. They participated in a science expo with a P66 Engineer and had activities through OSU Extension. They also had opportunities to explore technology such as how and why a Fitbit works, about artificial intelligence and were able to build prototypes. Valeria Hughes also shared about Roosevelt's Genius Hour in which students could explore topics of their interest to research and then give a presentation.

Annie Dickinson shared one activity that Trout students conducted was a leadership project. Students hosted a food drive at Thanksgiving. The students organized the drive, made the plans, presented it to their peers and carried out the project. This was just one of a variety of activities at Trout.

Ann Marie Nielsen from Woodlands shared about an energy unit presented to students by P66. They learned various things about types of metals and their uses, thermostats, food energy, and

more. Students also completed a unit in which they studied buoyancy using boats and they also got to build robots.

Denise Baldwin worked with students at Garfield on a variety of projects. She shared that she surveys students each year to see what they are interested in studying the following year. This year they'd chosen to study Native American history and students research a tribe of their choice and then presented their research projects to other classes at Garfield. They also conducted other research projects such as flight and flew jets. They also visited the Cowboy Hall of Fame, sang carols at a nursing home, sent get well letters to veterans in hospitals, sent Valentine cards to kids at St. Jude's and to soldiers overseas.

Lynetta Rochelle talked about the academies they hold at West Middle School. Students could participate in these afterschool activities such as building mini-bots and learning about coding. They were also able to visit the osteology museum and have lessons in pathology. West also participates in the Duke Talent Search program, which allows students the chance to take the PSAT, ACT, and/or SAT and to be recognized for outstanding academic performance.

Denton Long from East Middle School shared about some of the program activities at East this year. Students constructed Trebuchets and hot air balloons using kits. One group made stop motion animation videos using various materials and Chromebooks then showed their final product in the 1st semester talent show. During the 2nd semester, students were able to explore micro-drones and mini-bots. Students also had the opportunity to attend the National Weather Center and the Sam Noble Museum in Norman.

Terri Calhoun shared that students at the high school are served through Pre-AP and AP courses, independent study opportunities, and creative and academic competitions such as Chorale, PoHi-Steppers, and Academic Bowl. She said there is a possibility of having a music theory class available in the future as well.

These projects and activities shared are just the highlights of many services and activities available across the district.

Site representatives were encouraged to share these projects and ideas at their sites to consider for next year's planning and to be informed of what activities are going on at other sites that can be built upon. Member Terri Calhoun also reminded everyone of the Robotics class at the high school and middle school representatives suggested checking into the option of having high school students and/or teachers with the Robotics class to be able to visit the middle schools to share information about the class.

Amy Swartz shared that Tisha Reynolds is working on a Google Classroom for gifted coordinators across the district to have access to sharing ideas and resources with each other. It should be ready in the fall.

Meeting was adjourned.