

GT Implementation Team Meeting – October 27, 2021

Members Present (* indicates core members)

Bryant, Nancy*	Specialist, GT Mentorship
Burr, Ericka	Counselor, Secondary
Cahill, Joseph*	Curriculum Coordinator, Gifted and Talented
Castle, Jennifer*	Curriculum Coordinator, Secondary Math
Coleman-Holmes, Aisha*	GT Program Manager, Secondary
Dickey, Courtney*	Principal, Elementary
Faulkner, Kate	Assistant Director, Intervention and Student Growth
Ford, Ida	Executive Director, Elementary
Hanan, Angie*	FBISD Board of Trustees Member
Hibsch, Kim*	Secretary, GT PAC
Hill, Deena	Executive Director, Student Support Services
Holmes, Kamilah*	Coordinator, GT Academy
Hunter, Cathy	Parent
Laberge, Sarah*	Principal, High School
Land, Quentin*	Assistant Principal, Elementary
Langston, Lisa*	Principal, Elementary
Moore, Marianella	Assistant Director, Multilingual Programs
Nance, Kristen*	Curriculum Coordinator, Secondary ELA
Nolan, Christina*	Specialist, Professional Learning
Pennings, Wendy*	President, GT PAC
Taylor, Anne	Counselor, Elementary
Westphal, Laurie*	Director, Gifted and Talented
Young, She'Nee	Principal, Elementary

Guests in Attendance

Dr. Christie Whitbeck, Superintendent
Beth Martinez, Chief Academic Officer
Sedric Bostic, Budget Manager, Business and Finance

Members Not Present

Ackerman, Leslie	COGS, Elementary
Agina, Tiffany	Assistant Principal, Elementary
Agollah, Sheneka	COGS, Middle School
Alexander, Davida	Coordinator, Enrichment Programs
Collins, Cory	Principal, Middle School
Coston, Lisa	Director, State and Federal Programs
Craig, Lori	Principal, Elementary
DeFlora, Lucretia	Principal, Elementary
Doshi, Jigisha*	Parent
Dow, Angela	Principal, Elementary
Durham, Kristi	Principal, Elementary
Garza, Gabriella	Principal, Elementary
Guevara, Elizabeth*	Counselor, Elementary
Hale, Sonya	COGS, Elementary
Johnson, Tanya*	Counselor, Middle School
Khade, Shweta	Assistant Principal, Elementary
McMennamy, Glenys	Teacher, High School
Moore, Makai	High School student
North, Erin	Teacher, High School
Obey, Tammu	Coordinator, Title I
Powell, Karen	Counselor, Elementary
Rosier, Rachel	Principal, Elementary
Ramon, John	COGS, High School
Ramsey, Tim	Assistant Principal, High School
Schwinger, Joy	Principal, Elementary
Wilson, Crystal*	GT Program Manager, Elementary

Call to Order -- Laurie Westphal, 12:00 p.m.

Beth Martinez on behalf of Dr. Christie Whitbeck who will be joining us about 1:00. She will have a request of us!

Warm Welcome: Which song would you sing for karaoke?

Introduction We will be following the same format as last month, sharing work stream updates; move to breakout groups to provide feedback, then come back to whole group for key ideas.

Updates Quarter 3 has ended, so the Task Maps have been updated and posted in Schoology. Some items have had to be adjusted because of COVID – caused several date pushes.

Work Stream Updates

Communications – October messaging has gone out – newsletter on October 1 and quarterly report October 17.

Acceleration – Angie Hanan: meetings with principals of pilot campuses; receiving feedback and working on the rollout timeline. Talking about staffing, scheduling, training/additional job responsibilities. Principals have been briefed on curriculum writing being placed on pause due to loss of one writer.

Elementary Service Expansion Exploratory – discussing how to develop talent outside of core content (performing arts, favorite outclass, etc.) Discussion of small population campuses; how are they able to work together? Requesting feedback on which areas could be identified to development?

Secondary Service Design Enhancement – Continuation of work in expanding programming options. Pilot of GT-specific independent study course and GT-specific sections of ENG I and ALG I; working on communication to stakeholders. Requesting/soliciting additional questions for various stakeholders (students, parents, campus leaders)

Student Identification/Program Expansion – Examination of current identification process – resources currently being used to identify students and alignment with the state plan. Will be moving into considerations of revisions to the process.

Beth Martinez: Explanation of the work group facilitation and welcome to Dr. Whitbeck

Dr. Christie Whitbeck (1:00): Thank you for the work you're doing! It's difficult to have a new "sheriff" and I am not intending to do away with the work. Vested in gifted education; early career in Alief did pull out ELA enrichment and thematic units. Embedded in GT education and teaching models. Principal rep in Katy PAC and also a GT parent.

Key Feedback on what we want the superintendent to know from the following committees:

Acceleration – Hard work, dedication, and passion has gone into AMP that has gone on for the past 2 years. We want those students to receive these services since they are not receiving them now. Also looking to serve high-achieving students and be part of their growth throughout their journey in Fort Bend ISD

Communications – GT Department will not be successful without campus level administrative support and accountability

Elementary Service Expansion Exploration – As a group, we work proactively work to provide equitable access to all students, even those who are not identified so that we may help those small pops be expanded. What is Dr. Whitbeck's vision for gifted education in the district? We would love to have opportunities to collaborate with other departments to know what they are doing and what programs they have.

Secondary Service Design – Ensure that programming options coming forward need to be staffed and funded in order to be achieved with fidelity.

SIPE – Top item to share with Dr. Whitbeck is for her to understand that the parents like being part of the work streams and would like to continue this practice. Recognize GT students at Title I campuses.

Dr. Whitbeck – agrees to get these services to underserved – but how? What is best practice? Can we find it instead of having to create it? Implementation at the campus level is where the rubber meets the road and will be a priority in leadership conversations.

Key Feedback on Work Stream Products from the following committees:

Acceleration – SSD: a few parts requesting clarification but felt it was a clear and succinct list

Communications – Kudos to the SSD on the FAQ

Elementary Service Expansion Exploration – Newsletter: good length; SSD: How is the GT-specific different?

Secondary Service Design – Newsletter: differentiating the information by grade bands to allow parents to target their reading

SIPE – Newsletter: more personable by grade level

Closing: Next meeting December 8, 2021, 12:00 – 1:30 p.m. via Microsoft Teams

End: Laurie Westphal, 1:23 p.m.