



Instruction Subcommittee Special Meeting

February 04, 2019 5:30 PM

Board Meeting Room
Administrative Offices
137-B Glenwood Road
Clinton, CT 06413

Attendance Taken at 5:31 PM:

Present Board Members:

Erica Gelven
Sandra Luke
Kimberly Russo
Catherine Staunton

1. Opening Exercises

1.A. Roll call

Discussion:

Also in attendance were Superintendent O'Donnell, Special Services Supervisor M. Noyes, Teacher E. Kelsey, and 6 parents.

1.B. Pledge of Allegiance

Discussion:

All stood for the pledge of allegiance.

2. Review of Talented & Gifted Survey Results

Discussion:

M. Famiglietti shared a copy of aggregated data related to 17 school systems that responded to our inquiries about their district Talented and Gifted programs. E. Kelsey reviewed the process utilized to gather data from districts related to questions that had been identified at a previous subcommittee meeting. She also provided a brief overview of the information that was gathered.

M. Famiglietti discussed the components of the data and how the feedback aligns with our process. In addition, he highlighted areas that we are looking at for adjustments to our processes and to our thinking of providing a TAG/Enrichment coordinator for the district. Members asked clarifying questions and there was discussion related to the assessments that are used for identification and potential cut scores.

The subcommittee and others in attendance reviewed the results from the Student, Parent, and Staff Surveys given in January and shared information. Data showed that teachers are interested in gaining knowledge about working with Talented and Gifted students. Also noted were differences in perceptions between students and teachers responses, and in certain subjects that are perceived to be more challenging than others.

3. Discussion of Changes to District Talented & Gifted Programming

Discussion:

M. Famiglietti shared the ideas behind the new coordinator position and some of the designated responsibilities. This person would be responsible for evaluating the results of the identification assessments, would coordinate the identification process, the PPT's and IEP development, would be the

liaison with families and students, would be working with administrators to be sure that we are offering opportunities for clustering of TAG students together through scheduling, and working with classroom teachers to ensure that teachers have training and develop instructional practices and strategies to work with TAG students and all students within a classroom setting. Mr. Famiglietti would also be working with building administrators to look at in-school programming and extension opportunities. Other suggestions about smaller parent conference opportunities were explored.

Other changes discussed included the revision of the identification process and inclusion of the person who will be in that role in conversations as we develop the new program options.

M. Famiglietti shared that the state has a document that is going through a review process and we will be keeping an eye out for any guidance from the state. Questions were raised about the PPT meeting and IEP development process. Parents feel that there is a need for additional information about a student's profile and what the data shows related to their abilities and the reasons for the identification. A focus on providing additional information to parents is an area that should be explored.

In the spring of this year, we will be bringing information back to the subcommittee.

4. Update on Joel Scheduling Work

Discussion:

M. O'Donnell shared information about the process used and how input was gathered from staff. She emphasized the focus on enhancing what we offer, not eliminating. An update on progress will be provided in the spring.

5. General Update

6. Adjournment