



Gifted and Talented

Parent/Community Committee Recommendations

March 10, 2016



Process to Date



Staff Engagement

- Meetings held with Kennard, Mallinckrodt and Stix Gifted Classroom Staffs

Parent/Community Engagement

- Two parent/community gifted forums held (at Kennard and Carr Lane VPA)
- Three Parent/Community/Teacher/Administrator Advisory Committees formed
 - Gifted Curriculum
 - Identification and Assessment
 - Expanding Gifted Services
- Each Advisory Committee met for two hours on three consecutive Tuesdays

District Engagement

- Individual conversations with school administrators, Network Superintendents, and other Executive Leadership Team members

Recommendations: Gifted Curriculum

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS	RESPONSE	REMARKS/ RATIONALE
Create SLPS Gifted Framework <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Acceleration, Differentiation, Enrichment, PBL •Shared resources between all programs •Use Kennard as starting point •School flexibility to maintain unique characteristics •Publicly available to parents and community 	Spring 2016	
Uniform allocation of resources across all schools.	Not Recommended	<p>Resources are allocated by enrollment at all school sites.</p> <p>Additional needs are considered at the request of the principal.</p>

Recommendations: Identification and Assessment

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS	RESPONSE	REMARKS/ RATIONALE
Incorporate non-assessment criteria to validate gifted identification.	Fall 2016	Additional measures will be used to validate, but not replace, gifted testing.
Expand the number of examiners.	Fall 2016	
Create a list of approved outside examiners.	Not Recommended	There is no way to ensure consistency of administration or access.
Hire a third party to audit the district's existing testing process.	Not Recommended	Once changes are implemented as outlined, the district will ask the Gifted Advisory Committee to review the process.
Use more comprehensive intelligence tests and academic tests.	Not Recommended	The district examiners use a variety of assessments, depending on the situation. All assessments will be administered appropriately according to the guidelines of the assessment.

Recommendations: Expanding Gifted Services

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS	RESPONSE	REMARKS/ RATIONALE
Administer the NNAT or CogAT screening test (or similar) to all Kg and 2nd grade students.	Fall of 2016	Many students from under-served or under-identified populations are not self-identifying for gifted testing. General screening is a proven way to expand identification.
Expand definition of gifted to 90th or above. Retroactively use scores from the past 3 years.	Fall 2016 Pull-Out services only for 16-17	Expanded population is more demographically representative of the district (racially and geographically). No demonstrable difference in academic potential between this population and those currently identified.
Open a third Gifted School on the North Side of St. Louis. Phase-in, starting with grades depending on demand.	Open Fall 2017 Include in the Magnet Application process for Fall of 2016	Expands equity of access (geographically) to a large under-served and under-identified population. Criteria: central location on the North Side, ease of transportation access, low historical enrollment, low historical performance, quality nearby neighborhood school, size and quality of facility. Three sites were identified as finalists: Columbia, Dunbar and Hickey.
Create transition plan for students coming in and out of gifted schools.*	Spring 2016	

Recommendations: Staffing/Other

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS	RESPONSE	REMARKS/ RATIONALE
<p>All teachers must either be certified or actively pursuing certification.</p> <p>All teachers must commit to participating in district PD toward building and implementing the common SLPS Gifted Framework.</p>	Fall 2016	
<p>Create a standing, district-level gifted advisory committee.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Parents, Teachers, Administrators, Experts •Provide recommendations around curriculum, identification, and equitable services for all gifted students. 	Spring 2016	See the <u>Shared Commitments and Additional Considerations</u> document from the Gifted Curriculum Committee for a starting point.

Conclusion

- Questions?
- Thank you

