

Piedmont Unified School District
GATE Advisory Council

AGENDA

March 25, 2013

3:30pm

Havens Elementary School Library

Topic	Facilitator	Time
1. Sign-in, Welcome, Introductions	R. Booker	5 min.
2. GATE Certification – Professional Development	R. Booker	45 min.
a. Martin Lewis, Michelle Kerwin, Ken Brown, Tracy Broback		
3. Differentiation Specialists	R. Booker	15 min.
4. GATE Plan expires June 2014	R. Booker	20 min.
5. Announcements	Council	5 min.

GATE Advisory Council Purpose:

The GATE Advisory Council is a forum for discussing issues related to the development and education of gifted/talented students. The council also reviews and provides input on the implementation and development of GATE programming in the District. The group is comprised of interested parents, teachers, and administrators.

What is the District's GATE Program?

The Piedmont Unified School District GATE program is coordinated at both the District and site levels, by specifically-assigned District and Site GATE Coordinators who work with other District personnel, parents and community members. The District GATE Coordinator provides program planning and implementation support District-wide, facilitation of GATE Advisory Council meetings, parent education, and content for the District's GATE web page. The District and each Site GATE Coordinator plan for and provide teachers with in-service time and professional support from educational and counseling experts, to ensure teachers' proficiency in identification of student learning styles and strengths, and in provision of differentiated instruction.

The Site GATE Coordinator at each school is responsible for ensuring GATE identification and program implementation consistent with the District-wide plan. This includes searching out students who are GATE eligible, supporting teacher-parent communications about the needs of individual students, providing teacher in-service, and planning for GATE expenditures with the school Site Council.

The District estimates that a high proportion (approx. 17%+) of students are eligible for GATE identification, which means that the District must have a well-articulated program that addresses the needs of GATE-eligible students across subjects and grade levels as part of the regular education program. Given the central program focus on cluster grouping and differentiation within general education classrooms, individual teachers ensure that the curriculum of GATE identified students is both consistent with state standards and intellectually and developmentally appropriate.

Agreed upon norms for working together:

1. Each member will contribute.
2. We will listen to one another.
3. Use conversational courtesy.
4. Respect the value of all ideas and points of view.
5. Humor is welcome (not at the expense of others).
6. We will start and end on time.
7. Avoid editorials.
8. Strive to be and make others comfortable.
9. Assume best intentions.
10. Turn off cell phones.

Additional Meetings:

April 22, 2013