



**CONEJO VALLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**Instructional Services, Office of Student Support Services**

**GATE-DAC MEETING MINUTES**

**DATE Friday, September 14, 2018: 9:07 a.m.-11:00 a.m.**

**Location: University Center**

CVUSD GATE DAC Purpose: Communicate & Advise (Advocacy)

*Quote: "Develop a passion for learning. If you do, you will never cease to grow."  
– Anthony D'Angelo*

**ATTENDANCE:** Shauna Ashmore, Stefanie Caswell, Subha Tholudur, Christine Wells, Bernard Kuai, Hilary Bhinder, Teri Trudel, Gisella Stanley, Amy Chen, Rachael Brusseau, Stephanie Vollowitz Light, Hilary Wolcott, Ryan Murtos, Payal Millies, Christy Dexter, Janny Fraken, Hun Kaplowitz, Chris Limcarp, Nancy Crellin, Jennifer You, Christy Glaubke, Jolene Winter, Christina Shaffer, Liz Cotton, Tammy Adams, Rebecca Chin, Jona Lemmonder, Ersher Ali, Julia Blietz.

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 9:07 a.m. by Chair Subha Tholudur.

**II. OPENING CEREMONIES**

- a. Introductions
- b. "Quote of the Day" – Shauna Ashmore

**III. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

A motion was made by Teri Trudel to adopt the agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Gisella Stanley. The vote was unanimous to adopt the agenda as presented.

**IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

There was no unfinished business.

**V. PUBLIC COMMENTS (limited to 3 minutes per speaker)**

There were no public comments.

**VI. READING AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Gisella Stanley moved and Julia Blietz seconded a motion to approve the minutes as presented. The vote to approve the minutes was unanimous.

**VII. DISCUSSION OF PLANS FOR THE UPCOMING YEAR**

Christine Wells mentioned the possibility of coordinating a district-wide GATE event for students to attend four National Geographic Live talks at the Thousand Oaks Performing Arts Center. She also asked about the possibility of setting up an overnight trip to the La Brea Tar Pits. Christine further commented about difficulty setting up online GATE activities. It was suggested that she



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get some assistance from teachers.

Stefanie Caswell said that she would help coordinate between teacher and parent GATE representatives.

There was a discussion regarding curriculum within the classroom versus GATE day camp. Shauna Ashmore said that many things come under the heading of student support services. Her team is working on a vision of how GATE education will be presented in schools. She wants to create something that will stand the test of time. They have already taken some steps. An email went out yesterday to teachers about this. Teachers will have the opportunity to become GATE certified. Also, the GATE facilitators meetings have been reformatted. The meetings used to be all about sharing. Now, three of the monthly meetings have been cancelled so that teachers can spend that time running activities on campus. The teachers are to report on the success of those activities. Speakers will give talks at the GATE facilitators meetings. There will be a focus on day-to-day teaching in the classroom. No one wants more work for GATE students. A discussion followed about GATE being qualitative rather than quantitative. Elementary GATE students are clustered in classrooms.

Lisa Miller arrived and introduced herself. She said that she cannot mandate things to teachers. The number of non-student days that teachers work was reduced during the last economic downturn; some of those days may be restored. The teachers' union says that teachers want more professional development. The goal is to provide teachers with the training to ensure good first teaching for all students.

At Maple, GATE students receive GATE education during the first half-hour of school.

Subha mentioned that getting a GATE TOSA was a great first step.

Stefanie Caswell said that she has supplied information regarding emotional challenges, anxiety and other issues to GATE teacher facilitators.

Lisa Miller noted that emotional needs were added to the LCAP plan.

**VIII. REPORTS (see attached)**

a. Shauna Ashmore

There is now a team of three people: Shauna, Lisa Miller and Stefanie Caswell.

There are approximately 2100 GATE students identified in CVUSD.

The GATE make-up exams did happen in June. Fifty-two students took the exam and received their results before the start of this school year.

All third grade students will be tested for GATE.

b. Stefanie Caswell

Stefanie showed the updates to the CVUSD website that are related to the GATE program, including the information of OLSAAT testing for third-grade students. She talked about the NNAT (Naglieri) and Slosson exams that may be given if a student is near the GATE cutoff. Testing will happen in January or February, and there will be a make-up exam on a Saturday, date TBD.

Stefanie compared the number of students who signed up for Noetic Math this year and



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last, and she offered possible reasons why there were fewer students who signed up this year.

c. DAC

There are new dates for open enrollment.

There are several bills before the legislature.

This is “recognize crossing guards” month.

Reflections art is due on October 30.

There will be free heart screenings for students on Saturday, November 10.

There are school board positions open.

Cash for Conejo Classrooms is now open. Teachers can apply for a \$250 grant for a project in his/her classroom.

There are lots of things going on at the Newbury Park library.

There is homework help at both the Thousand Oaks and Newbury Park libraries.

d. School Site Reports

Sycamore and Sequoia after school enrichment series will be coming back again this year.

Maple has partnered with Newbury Park High School for four days per year during which high school students help elementary school students with computer programming.

IEEE will be in Thousand Oaks on October 19 to talk to middle-school girls; the event is called Girls Make Tech with Heart.

NASA: Earth week event about how the planet Earth inspires art.

e. Local / State Update

None

f. Support Organization Report (CAG, TCGC)

Tri-county GATE council meeting dates conflict with some of GATE-DAC meeting dates.

The tri-county GATE council also awards grants.

None

**IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None.

**X. NEW BUSINESS**

What do you want on the next agenda? There was a request to discuss the Facebook page and a request to discuss methods of communication with parents of GATE students.

**XI. NEXT MEETING**

Friday, October 12, 2018 @ 9:00 a.m. at University Center

**XII. ADJOURNMENT**

Julia Blietz moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:00 a.m. The motion was seconded by Ryan Murtos. The meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.



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Respectfully submitted,  
Christine Wells, Secretary