



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

GATE-DAC MEETING MINUTES

DATE Friday, April 13, 2017: 9:10 a.m.-10:59 a.m.

Location: Horizon Hills

CVUSD GATE DAC Purpose: Communicate & Advise (Advocacy)

Quote: "Strive not to be a success, but rather to be of value." – Albert Einstein

ATTENDANCE: Dr. Juan Santos, Subha Tholudur, Bijaya Eaton, Christine Wells, Bernard Kuai, Hilary Bhinder, Teri Trudel, Dale Dooley, Julie Nagamoto, Gisella Stanley, Bill Gorback, Amy Chen, Rachael Brusseau, Li Yi, Matsuko, Carolyn Bernadino

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 9:10 a.m. by Chair Subha Tholudur.

II. OPENING CEREMONIES

- a. Introductions
- b. "Quote of the Day" – Dr. Santos

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. PUBLIC COMMENTS (limited to 3 minutes per speaker)

There were no public comments.

V. READING AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Bijaya Eaton mentioned a correction that needed to be made to the minutes. Hilary Blinder moved and Julia Blietz seconded a motion to approve the corrected minutes. The vote to approve the corrected minutes was unanimous.

VI. REPORTS (see attached)

- a. Dr. Santos
Updates regarding professional development for teachers: Penny Brady from Walnut Elementary has been certified through a state program. She spoke about her training and experiences. She will be giving presentations to other teachers. Teachers will have an option to obtain certification (and this opportunity may be extended to parents in the future). The certification program will start in the next school year. A lot of GATE is built into Common Core. There will be an online component, so GATE students can spend an hour a week on it, either at home or during class time.
GATE testing: The results are back, although Dr. Santos is still reviewing the tests taken



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by first- and second-grade students. Of the approximately 1100 third-grade students in the district, 904 took the test, and 157 were identified as eligible for GATE. The cutoff for eligibility has changed to make it more inclusive. The cutoff for inclusion had been raised a few years ago, and then it was returned to where it was previously. When it was raised, too few students were included in GATE. Now, the cutoff is at two standard deviations above the mean, rather than three standard deviations. Some schools have a lunch bunch to help GATE kids with social/emotional issues.

Sandy Everett from the school board spoke. She said that there is no state mandate for GATE, but there is for special education, although both groups of students are two standard deviations away from the mean. The board is open to suggestions, which could lead to funding. Some proposed programs might increase the need for more counselors. She said that GATE kids are not “on the sidelines”, but there is no state mandate to assist them.

b. DAC

The DAC met last Tuesday. On April 20, there is a possible walk-out action in middle schools.

A fourth LCAP goal was added.

The state legislature is considering starting transitional kindergarten earlier and possibly recognizing Chinese New Year.

A \$500 grant for school-wide art project from the Conejo School Foundation is available.

All-district music performances are coming up.

A parent seminar on vaping is coming up.

There are 3-D printing opportunities at the library; the “thingiverse” website has code for lots of things for 3-D printing.

The library will hold a black-out poetry contest for middle school students. Students take a page of text and black out almost all of the words, and the remaining words become a poem.

c. GATE DAC Events Reports

The robotics meet-up event was deemed a failure because no one showed up.

There are two solve-it days coming up.

There will be a break-out-box event for sixth-grade students at the teen center with three teams from each school.

d. School Site Reports

Dale Dooley said that copy of the 5 Star Program had been purchased. This program helps to keep kids connected with school. They are trying to identify students who aren't participating in any events or activities. They also want to try to identify kids who don't have any friends.

Assistant Superintendent Lisa Miller introduced herself.

Subha Thulador from Sycamore discussed coding for all kids.

e. Local / State Update

None



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- f. CAG Conference Report
None

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a. Communication:
Next month Dr. Santos will lead a discussion group on LCAP.
- b. “What do you want for your GATE student?”
Hilary said that we have done all that parents can do, but now it is time for the district to take it to the next level.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

LCAP goals 1 – 4 have been accepted. Work is beginning on sub-goals and metrics. GATE is part of goals 1, 3 and 4.

IX. SPECIAL GUEST

X. NEXT MEETING

Friday, May 11, 2018 @9:00 a.m. at University Center

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Gisella Stanley moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:59 a.m. The motion was seconded by Dale Dooley. The meeting adjourned at 10:59 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Christine Wells, Secretary