

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

GATE DAC MEETING MINUTES

DATE: Friday, October 12, 2018 9:05 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Location: University Center

CVUSD GATE DAC Purpose: Communicate & Advise (Advocacy)

Quote: "Optimism is the faith that leads to achievement. Nothing can be done without hope and confidence." – Helen Keller

ATTENDANCE: Shauna Ashmore, Stefanie Caswell, Tammy Adams, Colette Appel, Hilary Bhinder, Julia Blietz, Rachel Brusseau, Amy Chen, Melissa Crawford, Christine Dexter, Bijaya Eaton, Christy Glaubke, Hun Kaplowitz, Andi Keith, Bernard Kuai, Ryan Murtos, Julie Nagamoto, Shannon Prachyl, Gisella Stanley, Subha Tholudur, Teri Trudel, Stephanie Vollowitz, Heidi Dillon, Gina Gardetto, Payal Millies, Elizabeth Cotton

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Meeting called to order at 9:05 am by Chair Subha Tholudur

Christine Wells – Secretary was not present. Gisella Z. Stanley took notes from the meeting.

II. OPENING CEREMONIES

a. Introductions

b. "Quote of the Day" - Stefanie Caswell

III. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA:

A motion was made by Julie Nagamoto to adopt the agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Shannon Prachyl. The vote was unanimous to adopt the agenda as presented.

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

No Unfinished Business to discuss

V. PUBLIC COMMENTS: (Limited to 2 min. per speaker)

Mrs. **Heidi Dillon** and her child were present at our meeting. She introduced her son who she mentioned was not vocal. She had three students in Conejo. She spoke about 2e (twice exceptional) students and shared with the group that motor ability deficits do not affect cognitive abilities. She shared two strategies that allowed her son to perform algebraic calculations and to write. She was seeking resources to help her child. It is challenging accessing curriculum to overcome motor issues. She made a point for us to know that "Motor is not Cognition."

VI. READING AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. The year on the minutes should be changed to "2018:

b. Andrea Keith requested to make the following changes to the meeting minutes point VII Discussion of plans for next year – last paragraph: "*A parent of a student from Aspen said that GATE students would be leaving the school next year because nothing was happening in the classroom and the kids were bored in class.*" The second request was a change to this line: *No one wants more work for GATE students.*" to: "*There was a discussion regarding curriculum within the classroom versus GATE day camp.*" Tammy Adams moved to approve the minutes with changes. Christy Dexter seconded the motion. The vote to approve the minutes with changes was unanimous.

VII. DISCUSSION OF PLANS FOR THE UPCOMING YEAR:

Stefanie Caswell, TOSA, mentioned that GATE DAC will continue to run activities in each

school.

- Nov. 9: Sphero Robots for 4th, 5th, and 6th Grades from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. at University. Event is limited to about 50 students. Tracy Abraham will run the event,
- Dec. 7th: Bubble Prisms for 4th and 5th Graders from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. at University.
- Dec. 7th: Trivia for Middle School from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. at Newbury Park Library. Scheduling to send sign-up sheets two weeks in advance of each event.
- **Bijaya Eaton** mentioned that at the event at Redwood students came to create parachutes from recycled materials. Event was a success.
- **Hun Kaplowitz** asked if funding was available for people to use in after school activities at Madrona. Subha said that she could apply to Cash for Conejo Classroom Grants. Every Fall they offer \$250.00 Grants for teachers. Tri-County GATE gives grants to students, teachers, and parents.
- **Lang Ranch** is doing Lunch-Bunch every month
- **Stefanie and Subha** reminded the group that the district has GATE games that can be used at school events. We just need to call with dates, so the items can be checked out. The list of games is available in the District's website under teacher resources.

VIII. REPORTS

a. **Shauna Ashmore:**

Five teachers have begun the GATE certification process through TCGC.

Pending meeting with VCOE Exec Director of Curriculum and Instruction to discuss professional learning for both GATE facilitators and the larger community of CVUSD teachers.

Presentation of sample GATE DAC parent communication opt-in form, all principals have a draft and are prepared to assist GATE DAC parents in obtaining the information from all GATE families.

b. **Stefanie Caswell:**

Attending parent meetings and all events GATE related.

Every event for school that is shared with Stefanie is in the District's calendar.

Collaborative meeting grouped in specific categories with brainstorming ideas.

Coordinate Dual school events.

Gate certification program was Thursday, October 11th and was amazing. Very structured meeting.

Listening to all school districts. It was sponsored by Tri-County

Meeting needs of GATE Students. High level teaching style, differentiation. Posters on Website.

GATE parent night for High School – can they facilitate?

Speaker options: GATE DAC Meeting at night? Gisella Z. Stanley mentioned that parents asked her why the speaker meetings were in the morning. Many parents wanted to attend but because of scheduling issues they could never attend. Having a meeting in the evening could be something to consider.

c. **DAC – Subha Tholudur:**

Meeting to be held next week. Nothing to report

d. **SEDAC - Rachel Brusseau:**

Reported on Inclusive Schools Week – 1st Week in December – Kaleidoscope of Friends, and noted that an Executive Board was recently selected for SEDAC.

e. **SCHOOL REPORTS**

Maple: Newsletter goes out right after the meeting. Played game 24 in the evening. 10 students came. Parents also participated. Kids still talked about it. Set up date for parents meeting.

Redwood: 1st/2nd Grades scheduled for Wednesday after school for a fun science experiment from 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Middle schoolers will be teaching the younger ones. Similar events to happen once a trimester)

Earth's Magnet: Subha Tholudur reminded all of us that Christine Wells, Earth's Magnet GATE DAC parent rep, would like to know if anybody is interested in attending the National Geographic Live Series at the Civic Arts Plaza in Thousand Oaks. If anybody interested, feel free to contact her:

crwells@ucla.edu

Sequoia Middle School: Breakout Boxes event was Friday Oct. 5th. Amanda and Julie did a great job with the clues. Students like breakout boxes. Event was a success.

Tri-County GATE Council: Leadership meeting in May. Open for 7th Graders. More information will be provided as the date approaches.

f. **Local / State updates:** None

- g. **Support Organization Report (CAG, TCGC):** We are awaiting word from TCGC on the GATEway to Leadership Conference for 7th graders. In prior years it has been held in May at Westmont College. The CAG conference will be held February 22-24, 2019.

IX. OTHER UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

X. NEW BUSINESS:

a. CVUSD GATE DAC - BY-LAWS:

Bernard Kuai read the CVUSD GATE DAC By Laws – Standing Rules – Article II: Duties of Members Points 2 – 5.

GATE DAC has requested all parent representatives follow the By-Laws.

As a parent representative we should provide information discussed in the meetings to our school and bring back information to the District.

- b. **Subha Tholudur:** Requested (4) Gift Cards for GATE DAC Fun Friday Trivia Event to be held December 7th at Newbury Park Library. Prizes would go to 1st and 2nd place.

Subha Motion to approve funds up to 2 x \$20 for each first place of trivia winners. Money to be given from GATE District's Budget. Teri Trudel seconded the motion to approve no more than \$40 for Gift Cards. Motion Passed.

- c. **Bijaja Eaton** talked about twice (2e) exceptional students and the need to keep them in mind while the district moves forward with getting different programs in place

- d. **Hilary Binder** mentioned that the UCLA Explore your Universe event is November 4th and to contact Terri Culpepper to bring activities that the school district has available at no cost, to your own school

e. **Speakers:**

Hilary Binder expressed the meeting with Dr. Nazli Saliminejad that discussed relaxation for GATE kids was one of the best speakers. Julie Blietz said she would talk to her as she is a parent at Walnut. We could set up a meeting in the evening. Members to check availability. We could hold meetings at our school if our principal accepts/approves it.

- f. **New business for next month's agenda:** No

XI. NEXT MEETING:

Friday, November 16th, 2018 @ 9:00 am at University Center

XII. ADJOURNMENT:

Subha Tholudur moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:05 a.m. The motion was seconded by Julia Blietz. The meeting was adjourned at 11:05 a.m.