

GATE-DAC MEETING MINUTES
Friday, September 15, 2017: 9:10 - 11:07 a.m.
Horizon Hills MPR

CVUSD GATE DAC Purpose: Communicate and Advise (Advocacy)

Quote: "This is a new year. A new beginning. And things will change." – Taylor Swift

ATTENDANCE: Dr. Santos, Subha Tholudur, Bijaya Eaton, Christine Wells and Julie Freedman. See attached for additional attendees.

- I. CALL TO ORDER**
 - The meeting was called to order at 9:10 a.m. by Acting Chair Subha Tholudur.
- II. OPENING CEREMONIES**
 - a. Introductions: Definition of advisory council
 - b. Quote of the day by Dr. Santos
- III. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**
 - The agenda was adopted as presented.
- IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**
 - a. Election of Executive Board
Bijaya Eaton presented each member of the proposed Executive Board. There were no other nominees for any position. There were no comments about any of the proposed Board Members. A quorum was present. Because there was only one candidate for each position, that candidate was elected to the position on the Board.
The newly elected Board is:
Chair: Subha Tholudur
Vice Chair: Bijaya Eaton
Secretary: Christine Wells
Parliamentarian: Julie Freedman
- V. PUBLIC COMMENTS**
 - None
- VI. READING AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
 - The minutes of the previous meeting are to be e-mailed to all GATE-DAC representatives.
 - The minutes of the May 31, 2017 meeting were approved as distributed.
- VII. DISCUSSION OF PLANS FOR THE UPCOMING YEAR**
 - Subha discussed the importance of communication. One of the main functions of these meetings is to communicate with one another and to share information.
 - Fun Fridays have been scheduled for the last Friday of most months at the Board Room of CVHS. These events are an opportunity for GATE kids to meet one another and interact together.
 - The dates for Solve-It days will be emailed out to GATE-DAC representatives. These events are targeted to GATE students who are not participating in Odyssey of the Mind.
 - The meeting with the GATE facilitators will be Monday, October 23 at 4:30 p.m.
 - The GATE Facilitators' position is a volunteer position that comes with a stipend.
 - The GATE-DAC representatives will get a copy of the description of the GATE Facilitator role.
 - Email Julie Freedman if you want your phone number on the roster of GATE-DAC representatives.
- VIII. REPORTS (see attached)**

a. Dr. Santos

- There are approximately 2,300 GATE students in the district.
- Each year, 200-300 new students meet the criteria for GATE.
- The staffing in Dr. Santos' office has changed. He now has three interns. Dr. Santos' staff is working to update the computer files.
- All third graders with a parent/guardian signed permission slip will be tested for GATE.
- Special accommodations are made for students who are English Language Learners and others for whom verbal communication is an issue.
- Dr. Santos gave a detailed description of the evaluation process.
- The make-up date for GATE testing will be January 20, 2018.
- The district decides what constitutes a GATE student. The qualifications for GATE are different in LAUSD.
- Dr. Santos will accept a GATE designation from other school districts in California but not from another state.
- There is an important distinction between "gifted" and "high achieving." A list of these differences was shown.
- There is also a difference between honors and GATE.
- The information regarding Noetic Learning Challenge Math will be distributed soon. This will be done online at home, and the fee is \$20 for both the fall and spring semesters.

b. DAC

- There was a delay in school CAASPP reports; they are due by the end of September.
- The dashboard is due in late November.
- The superintendent discussed the Conejo Way program.
- The Newbury Park High School College Career Fair will be held on September 27 at 4:30 p.m.
- There are no specific guidelines regarding the question "how hot is too hot for physical education class?" A new staff member was hired to do risk management, so this new person may assist on this issue.
- There was a discussion regarding dress code, and this will be a topic at a future meeting.
- District policy states that the least expensive food provider must be used.
- The Thousand Oaks library offers many free services, including tutoring and 3-D printing for class projects. The library in Newbury Park will start offering free help with homework on Mondays and Wednesdays.

c. School site reports

- Some joint GATE events have been planned with Sycamore Canyon and Sequoia.
- The all-district Odyssey of the Mind meeting is coming up.
- The due date for the Target field trip grant is October 1.

d. Local / State Update

- The first tri-county GATE meeting was last Friday.

e. CAG Conference Report

- The call for presenters just went out. The conference will be in San Diego on March 3 and 4. The parent session is on March 4.

IX. OTHER UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- Acacia will host a "train the trainers" where those who attended the training at UConn will share what they learned.

X. NEW BUSINESS

- The GATE-DAC newsletter will be sent out soon
- The website for the National Association for Gifted Children has lots of information for professional development for teachers.
- Dr. Mark McLaughlin, Interim Superintendent, will be speaking at the next meeting. Submit questions for him to Julie Freedman.

XI. NEXT MEETING

- Friday, October 20 at 9 a.m. at University Center

XII. ADJOURNMENT

- Motion made by Julie Freedman to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Brianna Castillo. The meeting adjourned at 11:07 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Christine Wells, Secretary