

Maryland State Advisory Council for Gifted and Talented Education
Johns Hopkins University – Columbia Gateway Center
6740 Alexander Bell Drive, Columbia, MD. 21046
January 16, 2019 from 10:00 AM – 1:30 PM – Room 218/219
Snow Date: January 23, 2019

Dennis welcomed the group and shared that the Dr. Williamson met with Bruce, Dennis, and Penny to share COMAR updates. The meeting went well and they will continue to meet regularly. She was very supportive.

GT Online Hub: *GT Discover* (Presentation & Work Session) (10:00 – 11:00) IDEALS Institute Team

- Updates and Feedback on the GT Discover Visual Wireframes GTAC members
 - We are in the visual stage of development. The site was demonstrated highlighting educator and family resources, research, stories, and upcoming events. There are also sections to submit an event, stories, or resources. Different designs and filtering options were shared. A slider of student art will be at the bottom of the screen of the family section. An interactive map of the US allows visitors to click on their state's GT policy. There will be a language translator.
 - Submissions needed for resources by Feb. 28. Very few resources have been submitted at this point. Bruce created a submission form. It was suggested to add "Other" and "I don't know" in drop down menus. Articles and white papers need to be accessible without subscriptions to the site, i.e., public. All resources will be vetted and screened for copyright and ADA accessibility. We need to check NAGC resources, permissions, and partnership. It was suggested to create a standard letter requesting permission to post.
 - Feedback:
 - Can you filter events for online, face-to-face, or local events?
 - Add scrolling photos at the top (tagline)
 - Very clean, organized, and easy to navigate
 - No pop-ups!
 - Tiles-may remove flipping and include an overlay of words on the photo
 - Filter on the side is helpful. Can we add a keyword search?

Welcome and GTAC Subcommittee Work (11:00 – 1:00)

Dennis & Penny
GTAC members

- EGATE and GT Awards (Ainsley)
Solidified last minute details and tasks. Awards Ceremony is 2/5/19.
Potential Showcase: April 30 at Anne Arundel County Board of Education
- LEA Publicity and Recruitment (Don)
Discussed the need for a better understanding about GT students and clarifying misconceptions. Proposed creating a more serious Myths video. Also focused on ways to engage more districts that have not been as present in the GT/EGATE world.
- Program Improvement – LEA Level (Jessica)
Worked on adapting state/district level standards to NAGC standards and tools for districts to use for each standard.
- Criteria for Excellence – COMAR Language for School Level (Theresa)
90-95% finished! It will be a great document for LSS coordinators. Most is aligned with the proposed COMAR regulations.

Announcements and Updates (1:00– 1:30)

Susan & Bruce

- MSDE Updates
 - Status of GT COMAR and Public Comment Period

- 197 comments
- Comments go to Susan and then to Board. The Board has 30 days to revise. Most comments address the 10% identification. Comments are positive about the rest of the regulation.
- It would be advantageous for principal or parent to testify.
- Meeting Tuesday, January 22. Sign-up for public comment is now open.
- Javits Grant
 - Bruce is very excited about the website coming together.
 - 5 School systems will be selected to pilot the new COMAR. LSSs must apply. The application will be sent to superintendents first, then coordinators.
- ESSA
 - No comment
- E-GATE & GT Awards Updates Ainsley & Kim
- MEGS and MCGATE Updates Penny & Yvonne
- MEGS**
Planning next year's conference and spring dinner.
Looking for committee members and expand to more districts.
Deadline for MEGGY AWARD 3/1/19. It will be posted online and Bruce will send out.
- MGATE**
Board met to revise vision. The Board will be going to the Leadership Conference.
There are 3 essay contest winners.
Will be sending comments regarding COMARas an organization.
- Additional Announcements and Discussions GTAC members
NACG Proposals due 1/21/19

2018 – 2019 GT Advisory Council Meetings @ JHU Columbia

April 11, 2019 (Time: 10:00 – 1:30) Room (218/219)

Other Important Dates for Your Information

- January 22, 2019 – Deadline for Public Comment on the proposed GT COMAR revisions
- January 22, 2019 – State Board of Education (BOE) meeting
- February 2019 Gifted and Talented Education Month
- February 5, 2019 Celebrating Gifted and Talented Education in MD Awards (North Co. HS, AACPS)
- February 26, 2019 – State Board of Education (BOE) meeting (Decision about COMAR)
- March 7, 2019 – State BOE Open Meeting beginning at 9:00 am at MSDE - Final action on COMAR
- March 17 – 19 NAGC Leadership & Advocacy Conference, Embassy Suites, Old Town Alexandria, VA
- March or April EGATE Showcase (April 30 and location TBD)
- July 19-21 SENG Supporting the Emotional Needs of the Gifted Annual Conference - Houston, TX
- July 24 – 28 Biennial World Conference on Gifted and Talented Education, Nashville, Tennessee
- November 7 – 10, 2019 – 66th Annual NAGC National Convention – Albuquerque, NM