

GT PAC Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, November 11, 2020, 7 pm ZOOM

- **Meeting called to order by Kim Hibsich at 7:02 pm.**

- **Dr. Westphal Update:**
 - Need mentors for the **GT Mentorship program** in these areas: banking, medical private practice (in the Houston area), and medical device design/research. Email Nancy.bryant@fortbendisd.com if you have any leads.
 - **November Family Challenge Series:** Volunteers needed for challenge kit distribution on Monday, November 16th from 3:30-4:15 pm at FBISD Admin Building (16431 Lexington Blvd.). Contact Aisha Coleman-Holmes if interested.

- **Updates from the GT Task Force**
 - Task Force has parent members, in addition to Kim. Cathy Hunter, a parent member, is here today. There are 5 subcommittees: acceleration, communication, curriculum, secondary service design enhancement, and student identification/program expansion. Aisha and Dr. Westphal also attend the GT Task Force meetings.
 - **Update from Cathy Hunter:** She is on the secondary service design committee. They are contacting other districts to see how they do independent study courses. They also put out a secondary student survey in the GT newsletter about courses they want to propose. She was asked if the survey could be emailed directly to students. Aisha said that the district is working with COGS to upload the survey link in Schoology courses (there is a meeting with COGS on 11/30). They are not allowed to communicate with students directly. The link will be in any course that has GT students.
 - **Acceleration subcommittee:** Working on accelerated cluster model program to pilot in fall 2021.
 - **Communication subcommittee:** They have added a GT section to each campus' website (look under students & parents). There are also parent guides for GT programming starting to go live on the GT website. Kim is on the subcommittee.
 - **Secondary Service Design Enhancement subcommittee:** They completed a formal definition of the word "differentiation" as it applies to FBISD. Sent out survey to secondary students as described above.
 - **Student Identification/Program Expansion subcommittee:** They worked with communications to update campus GT websites.

- **Curriculum subcommittee:** Focused on flexible grouping of GT students. Researching how other districts handle grouping and what FBISD is using already.
 - **Communications subcommittee request:** They are developing FAQs for new families and would like input to add as many questions as possible. There is a link to a google doc to submit questions. The link was put in the chat, but the link will also be sent out.
- **Updates from GT PAC Subcommittees**
 - **GT Symposium subcommittee (Wendy Pennings):** They are proposing a change because the symposium will be virtual this year. They are proposing to not do the all-day traditional symposium because of logistical and virtual attendance span issues. They would like to do a month-long seminar series with seminars once a week, where you join the seminars you are interested in. This would only be the plan for this school year. Wendy posted the attendance link in the chat- it also includes a spot to vote for this GT symposium proposal. We will tabulate the results. (Also, if you dial into these meetings and cannot fill out the attendance link in the chat, make sure you confirm your attendance with your subcommittee chair).
 - **Communications subcommittee (Kim Hibsich):** Working to improve communications at the campus level- what should be standardized from campus to campus?
 - **Elementary Support subcommittee (Deepshikha Singh):** Working on organizational tips, acceleration information, and social/emotional support.
 - **Secondary Support subcommittee (Nadine Skinner):** Focusing on social and emotional needs of secondary students through building student networks, survey of students/teachers, and giving grace.
- Next meeting on **December 9, 2020 at 7 pm.**
 - Contact us at fbisdgtpac@gmail.com.
 - Breakout into subcommittee groups.
 - Minutes respectfully taken by Nadine Skinner, secretary.