

Gifted Advisory Council

State Library of Ohio
Columbus, OH
Oct. 2, 2024, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Meeting Minutes

Members present: *Michelle Andears, Chloe Backman, Michelle Barbosa, Leah Barger, Thomas Betsa, Lynn Carney, Denise Cooley, Emily Crabtree, Kylie Duskey, David Eby, Jennifer Ehlers, Anne Flick, Brandi Goodwin, Kara Gummel, Maggie Gunnerson, Stacie Hayne, Stephanie Heidenreich, Paula Hemmelgarn, Lisa Henline, TK, Kuykendall, Elizabeth Ratliff, Abbie Sigmon, Tom Smith, Shana Stober, Carmen Tarbill, Heather Townley*

New Member Orientation Meeting

The Gifted Advisory Council's new member orientation was called to order at 9 a.m. by Sherry Bircherm with introductions between the Department of Education and Workforce team and new Gifted Advisory Council Members. After explaining the day's agenda, Maria Lohr and Mrs. Bircherm explained the council's purpose. Then, Mrs. Lohr gave an overview and history of the council's work on the Gifted State Plan and showed data on gifted services. Megan Vermillion and Jeff Shoemaker explained the workgroups and their purpose. The group took a ten-minute break at 9:50 a.m.

Gifted Advisory Council Meeting

Welcome and Introductions

Mrs. Bircherm called the full Gifted Advisory Council meeting to order at 10 a.m. and welcomed returning council members to the meeting. TK Kuykendall, Chair-Elect, did a roll call, and then Mrs. Lohr introduced the new members to the returning members with a connection activity.

Agenda Items

After the activity, Mrs. Lohr reminded the council members of the members' expectations. Then, Mrs. Bircherm explained the agenda and what it means to have a public meeting according to the Ohio Revised Code 121.22(B)(C).

MINUTES APPROVAL

Maggie Gunnerson, Council Chair, asked for a vote to approve the April 2024 meeting minutes. Jennifer Ehler motioned for approval and Denise Cooley and Shana Stober seconded the motion. The minutes were approved with no edits needed.

STATE PRIORITIES

Mrs. Bircherm updated the council members on the Gifted Rule (OAC 3301 51 15), which was recently with the Joint Committee for Agency Rule Review (JCARR) . The rule has now been final filed and will be effective July 1, 2025. Guidance will follow.

After the Gifted Rule update, Mrs. Lohr updated the council on the status of the stakeholder survey which closes on Oct. 4. There were 534 responses on Oct. 2. The Department of Education and Workforce will use stakeholder feedback, advisory council feedback, and previous council work to guide information within the State Plan. Mrs. Lohr noted that we are in the drafting stages. A draft outline was shared with the council members for feedback by Oct. 31. The next step is to analyze data.

BYLAW REVIEW

Council members were asked to give feedback on the bylaws which contain outdated language and were last updated in 2021.

VISION SETTING

Mrs. Lohr introduced Teresa Castellaneta, Assistant Administrator, to the Office of Academic Success at the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce. Mrs. Castellaneta guided council members in a vision-setting activity titled, "What is the vision for Gifted Education in Ohio?" Council members then shared their vision statements. Mrs. Castellaneta also led the council in a brainstorming activity with sample vision statements that led to group drafting.

After lunch, the council members were allowed to review what other groups wrote in their vision-setting activity and then shared their ideas with the entire group. In closing the vision setting, the council members reflected on the takeaways of the vision-setting process and how this vision can guide future work.

WORK GROUP BREAKOUT

The council members broke into their workgroups to review the workgroup to-do checklist containing homework and deadlines for developing the state plan for gifted education.

Dr. Melissa Weber-Mayrer, Chief of Literacy Achievement and Academic Success, visited the meeting while work groups were in session. Dr. Weber-Mayrer greeted the council and thanked them for participating in this important work.

DEBRIEF, NEXT STEPS, CLOSING

The work groups continued until the very last moment of the day. Mrs. Gunnerson called for an adjournment which Denise Cooley motioned, and Lynn Carney seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 3:03 p.m.