

Gifted Advisory Council

Ohio Department of Education and Workforce

Columbus, OH

Dec. 11, 2024, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Meeting Minutes

Members present: *Michelle Andears, Chloe Backman, Erica Baer-Woods, Michelle Barbosa, Leah Barger, Thomas Betsa, Lynn Carney, Denise Cooley, Emily Crabtree, David Eby, Jennifer Ehlers, Anne Flick, Maggie Gunnerson, Dawn Harris, Stacie Hayne, TK, Kuykendall, Kimberly McCormick, Elizabeth Ratliff, Abbie Sigmon, Tom Smith, Shana Stober, Carmen Tarbill, Heather Townley*

Welcome and Introductions

Sherry Birchem called the meeting to order at 9:15 am. Mrs. Birchem welcomed the committee members to the December Gifted Advisory Council meeting. TK Kuykendall, Chair-Elect, called roll.

Agenda Items

MINUTES APPROVAL

Maggie Gunnerson, Council Chair, asked for a vote to approve the October 2024 meeting minutes. Denise Cooley motioned for approval and Jennifer Ehlers. The minutes were approved with one edit.

DEPARTMENT UPDATES

Bylaws Survey Results, Vision Statement, and Stakeholder Survey Data

At the last meeting, council members were asked for feedback on the proposed bylaw changes. Today, Megan Vermillion shared the results of member feedback. The Department will consider this feedback when drafting the new bylaws, which will be posted on the Department's website once finalized.

Next, Sherry Birchem and Mrs. Gunnerson presented a vision statement for gifted education in Ohio, based on suggestions from the previous meeting. Council members suggested further edits before moving on to the next topic.

Then, Megan Vermillion and Michael Demczyk presented data to the council showing an analysis of data from the state-wide stakeholder survey on the perceived strengths and needed improvements for gifted education in Ohio. This information included respondent demographics, and the main themes and trends found in the data.

WORK GROUP BREAKOUT

Before and after lunch, the council members broke into their workgroups to finalize their recommendations for their respective focus areas: identification, high-quality student supports and services, and professional learning. These recommendations will be considered for inclusion as the Department begins the process of drafting a state plan for gifted education in Ohio.

ADJOURNMENT

The groups worked until the end of the day when Mrs. Gunnerson called for an adjournment. Denise Cooley motioned to adjourn and was seconded by Erica Baer-Woods. The meeting concluded at 2:55 p.m.