



JEFFERSON COUNTY ASSOCIATION FOR GIFTED CHILDREN

Board Meeting
October 4, 2018
Location: Ed Center
Room: 2A Time: 4:30
pm – 6:30 pm

- I. Open Meeting and Announcements – Jean (10 minutes)
 - General Housekeeping items – board vacancy and CAGT Conf.
 - Jeffco Student Mental Health Issues and JAGC Response
- II. Executive Board Report – Danielle, Katherine, Beth (7 minutes)
- III. Introductions (for Visitors) (3 minutes)
- IV. Stefanie Renquist, Jeffco GT RT (20 minutes)
 - Summary of Artic Areas
 - ALP Best Practices and Ways Parents can/should be involved
- V. Pathways Report (15 minutes)
 - Amy, Nancy, Michelle mtg w/Jeffco Admin
- VI. Wisc Testing Changes - Michelle (5 minutes)
- VII. Committee Chair Summaries (30 minutes)
 - Amy – Communications (Amy, Lisa, Katherine, Kelly)
 - Guy – Community Outreach (Guy, Lisa, Kelly, Beth)
 - Ayrolyn – Ambassadors (Ayrolyn, Danielle)
- VII. GT Department Focused Discussion – Roger (30 minutes)
 - JAGC Feedback on Parent Seminar and Online Class enrollment numbers
 - Choice Enrollment Discussion – Understanding the changes
 - ALPs and parent roles and rights

4-Oct	2A	4:30 - 6:30
1-Nov	2A	4:30 - 6:30
6-Dec	4E	4:30 - 6:30
10-Jan	1C	4:30 - 6:30
7-Feb	2A	4:30 - 6:30
7-Mar	2A	4:30 - 6:30
4-Apr	2A	4:30 - 6:30
2-May	2A	4:30 - 6:30
6-Jun	2A	4:30 - 6:30

JAGC Board 2018-2019

Executive Board: President - Jean Willis-Brown, Vice President - Danielle Hicks,
Secretary – Beth Clark, Treasurer – Katherine Rickard, Members at Large: Guy Nahmiach,
Michelle Stone, Nancy Yanasak, Amy Dougherty,
Ayrolyn Keady, Lisa Girard, Kelly Bunnell
Officio Member: Roger Dowd

I. Open Meeting and Announcements – Jean (10 minutes)

a. General Housekeeping items – board vacancy and CAGT Conf.
CAGT Sunday-night Creativity Night, small attended. There is a registration table. Affiliate/vendor table? Roger doesn't think there's an expectation that we cover during breaks. Affiliate table. Those who are going, please help cover the table. Monday night is parent night

b. Jeffco Student Mental Health Issues and JAGC Response
Poster for Colorado Crisis: Amy going to see if Jeffco Mental Health will send them to the schools. October is National Mental Health Month

"just be nice" shirt on Anna, shared stickers

Mental health providers list on website: Jean checked with Amy's attorney about posting list to the website—too risky (perceived endorsement no matter how many disclaimers). Encourage therapists to register with CAGT's website; only one listed there now because it's tough to get listed (you have to have two recommendations to get listed).

Can the mental health provider association provide a targeted list?

Use JAGC newsletter to ask people to recommend their providers on CAGT; Michelle to shepherd as needed. **Amy also collecting names.**

SENG has 4 listed for Colorado (you have to take a certain number of their classes and be credentialed).

II. Executive Board Report – Danielle, Katherine, Beth (7 minutes)

Danielle went to GT teacher/BL training and spoke to both about their role in sending people to JAGC (and why people would want to come to us)

Katherine is changing our physical address to Post Office because UPS Store is charging too much

III. Introductions (for Visitors) (3 minutes)

Anna Vaught, center school in her area is Kiffen, all her neighborhood schools are elementary, spread out

Was an instructional coach at Adams

Passionate about working with teachers to make sure they're really meeting needs on an individual level

Involved with CoGAT

IV. Stefanie Renquist, Jeffco GT RT (20 minutes)

a. Summary of Artic Areas

b. ALP Best Practices and Ways Parents can/should be involved

Support Hackberry, 11 schools are all elementary, not as spread out, mostly in Arvada 3rd year as RT. Was a GT Center teacher at Sheridan Green

Heading up early access

Stef and Anna are outstanding at working with schools (per Roger), great feedback from principals

You can switch schools with people, but have such great relationships with schools so don't want to

Both doing a lot with talent pool and working with underserved populations

ALPs big push last couple years is for

- **Collaborative** process between student, teacher and family. In the past they've been teacher driven to the point that students didn't know they had one.

- **Meaningful** = kids need to have a part in the convo. More passionate if they have a part in goal-setting.

- **Achievable** – they shouldn't fail at ALP goals

That can feel scary to teachers. But teachers have the big picture and make sense/guide the student (not an isolated project). How can we embrace our gifted learner throughout the day, every day (not 20 minutes/week). Parents struggle because they don't know how to advocate. Ok to ask for the ALP, copy, discuss in and out of conferences.

Schools are starting to embrace this. Many teachers have already talked about the ALP and created rough goals.

How do you recommend parents approach the situation when it's not one teacher all day (middle school)? Find out who (dean/instructional coach or GT Building Leader (BL)). Ask for time to sit down and discuss—all stakeholders. Kids are often writing their goals at this stage, more independent. Maybe a mentor that they could check in with on their goal, i.e. trusted math teacher for math goal.

Roger: had a Secondary ALP Summit today upstairs, educators and students from many area/Colorado schools. Looking at the challenge of collaboration around the secondary ALP. Teacher-driven at the elementary school—encouraging them to include the students so it's not such an abrupt shift. Secondary needs more teacher buy-in.

What if teacher is overwhelmed and cannot support a student's goal? Where is the bottom line? Pull in the RT to help the teacher understand this doesn't have to be "extra". Maybe ask another teacher who the student is close with to mentor on the goal. Add an elective that's ALP so all the kids can get together (middle school)? Independent study (ex. art with math component, given space and supplies)? GT kids don't fit in a box, we have to be creative about how to support them.

How often should parents request ALP meetings? As often as needed. Teachers are encouraged to print and send home: goal when set, progress monitoring.

Examples of ALP goals at elementary?

- 6th graders wanted to help others with math, set up tutoring program—working together as a group and problem-solve was bigger take away.

- Pair of kids planning a dream home, math, model to scale, bids at Home Depot. Didn't finish and that was a key lesson.

Include in newsletter parents' role in ALP. Roger shared handout, this is what we have as law.

1. It is a tool that “drives” instruction and social-emotional guidance

How are RTs assigned? Same number of schools. But there are so many more GT kids in some schools than others. Roger: At those schools with lower IDs (particularly title schools), the work of the RT shifts more to identification and Talent Pool support.)

Roger: 'Roughly' same # of schools. There is some variation depending on needs of schools. RTs in Evergreen are overwhelmed, hard to reach.

Elementary—parents should learn about ALPs at conferences. If not a traditional conference, email the teacher and ask for a conference.

Do we tell kids how to talk about being gifted? Perfectionism, impulse control. At center schools likely yes, and the counselors contribute. You still have to learn to get along and work with everybody. Balance between sense of belonging and working across the spectrum.

Danielle shared her son's story

“The JAC” (JAC: Jeffco 'Juvenile Assessment Center') county service, “youngers” program
Restorative practices / **restorative justice**

School needs the parent to say “anyone who comes in contact can know about the identification / quirks”

V. Pathways Report (15 minutes) – perhaps “Options”

- a. Amy, Nancy, Michelle mtg w/Jeffco Admin

Edit the Word doc that was emailed and send back

Good meeting yesterday, our GT high schoolers are needing options, and there's a lot of great options but let's get it all in one place in a list on the website. Schools are wanting it.

Take away was options vary by school, and parent has to advocate. The list of options should be beyond the school (not limited to the district), within the county.

Elevated at the district level—holes in communication

iCAP in the newsletter, supplement to the ALP process (but it's not just another thing to do)

Get families and students to know about options, and then add them to the ALP and that becomes meaningful

Roger follow-up comments: counselor is a good place to start and then we can go beyond, however doesn't want us to have to constantly reinvent the wheel (but rather link to places that are updated, SchoolFinder). SchoolFinder tool (coming in December) will help

Need to add to the list things to know (don't attach your 504 to transcripts when applying, some credits don't transfer)

VI. WISC Testing Changes - Michelle (5 minutes)

Common IQ test for kids. GT kids may have slower processing speeds, and low working memory. Concern that our GT kids won't get identified. WISC V is short than WISC IV which is concerning. Jeffco GT will continue to use both individual index scores and General

Intellectual Ability (GAI: with processing and working memory factored out) as we have with previous editions of the WISC.

VII. Committee Chair Summaries (30 minutes)

a. Amy – Communications (Amy, Lisa, Katherine, Kelly)

Amy no update

Lisa 30% open rate (standard is 22%). 6% click rate

b. Guy – Community Outreach (Guy, Lisa, Kelly, Beth) (Guy had to leave early)

c. Ayrolyn – Ambassadors (Ayrolyn, Danielle)

VIII. GT Department Focused Discussion – Roger (30 minutes)

- JAGC Feedback on Parent Seminar and Online Class enrollment numbers
- Choice Enrollment Discussion – Understanding the changes In January all will get “Enroll Jeffco” login, also choice applications
- ALPs and parent roles and rights Wants collaboration. Meaningful and manageable
- Advisory Committee – 11/26 for the 1st mtg: see http://www.jeffcopublicschools.org/programs/gifted_talented/gt_advisory_council_gt_ac
- WATS Center for Bright Kids no longer funded from District. (Western Academic Talent Search) -- Jeffco no longer funds the discount for the cohort, but identified GT students may still participate. See http://www.jeffcopublicschools.org/programs/gifted_talented/student_opportunities