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MINUTES

GE-SAC Meeting

Date: February 4, 2021

Zoom Meeting **VIRTUAL**

Minutes Taken By: Paula McGuire, GERC, Northeast Region

Topic	Notes
Members Present	Heather Savory, Nikki Myers, Elena Henry, Connolly Sherwood, Paula McGuire, Rebecca Koster, Michelle Barkmeyer, Amy Graefe, Colleen Urlick, Terri Loiselle, Miles Skoog, Sarah Holdeman, Ruthi Manning-Freeman, Qing Hua, Rebecca McKinney, Mury Sutherlin, Michelle Stout, Lindsey Reinert, Karla Esser (State School Board), Kari Smoote, Cynthia Rundquist, Caity Sahimi, Amy Graefe, Christian Steward GUESTS: Darcey Perlman, Natalie Brown, Joi Lin, Kayla Steffens, Shalelia Dillard
Members Absent	Susan Scheibel, Suzanne Koskimaki
Introductions and Welcome	Introduction; What is a song that you are reminded of right now? Welcome to Karla Esser as a new State School Board Representative (replacing Jane Goff)
Approval of Minutes	December 3, 2020 Minutes Motion to approve minutes was made by Michelle Barkemeyer and seconded by Connolly Sherwood. Motion was passed.
Remark Rebecca McKinney CDE Gifted Director	There has been significant work in updating identification guidance. The GERC team gave input in the Fall and it has now moved to Forum. Gifted Directors also have draft copies to test ideas and give feedback, but these are not released formally yet. Now the focus is looking at what the impacts were from COVID to our gifted learners across the state and what resources do we currently need as we move forward? GEM process has replaced the CGER process and three of these have taken place so far.
Remarks Karla Esser State Board of Education	Karla Esser is replacing Jane Goff as our State School Board representative. She encourages contact via email at karla.esser@cde.state.co.us .

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<p>Group Breakouts: COVID impact on Gifted Learners</p>	<p>Participants were grouped first by role (Parent, Educator, Community Member) and then by Congressional Districts to discuss the impact of COVID on gifted learners.</p> <p><u>Community Members:</u> Stress has increased, response through art like murals, Denver has community micro-grants to create projects. Community Active Living Coalition Micro-grants for schools in the Denver can be found here. Talked about suicidal ideation and action with intensifying need around this. Child abuse is also on rise. Concern around educator burnout. Students value social time, but some are thriving in independent learning and the flexibility within it.</p> <p><u>Educator Members:</u> Mental health was the focus of conversation. Not sure if being in person versus remote is the primary factor in the mental health rising crisis? More opportunity now to think about independent learning and pace of learning.</p> <p><u>Parent Members:</u> It is harder to see that teachers are differentiating for gifted students now. Relaxed expectations for assignment due dates and online norms will lead to overwhelming change back to “normal.”</p> <p><u>CD 1 & 7:</u> Students are worried about COVID; some students are rushing through assignments and others taking too long. Concerns over CMAS and high-stakes testing. How does this impact BOE for gifted students? How are students interacting with hybrid accelerated learning? What if the next level is not available now in person because of “cohorting.” How will pre-service teachers get into schools to have practicum and student teaching experiences.</p> <p><u>CD 2:</u> Is there a way as a congressional group to stay in touch and then try to be more coherent on needs and representation of their CD.</p> <p><u>CD 3:</u> Things are very different around the state. Some are still doing sports but cohort issues are preventing gifted coordinators from seeing gifted students.</p> <p><u>CD 4:</u> Question of how to look at the mental health concerns as the education platform does not seem to mean a difference in perceived needs.</p> <p><u>CD 5:</u> Mental health was part of their conversation as well.</p> <p><u>CD 6:</u> Some schools are still being intentional in their differentiation and others seem to not be (is this part of cohorting?). Value of parent perspective on GE-SAC.</p>
<p>University Partnerships</p>	<p><u>Report given by Amy Graefe for UNC :</u> Transitioned to online SEP last summer and will still be offering it online this summer. Still recruiting for current Masters, Endorsement and Director Programs.</p> <p><u>Ruthi Manning-Freeman from UCCS:</u></p>

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	<p>Newest endorsement program in the state that has been approved. Working to get a cohort of 12, but would accept 10. Programs are fully online and targeting the south side of the state.</p> <p><u>Lindsey Reinert from DU:</u> Today and tomorrow is the gifted education symposium. Link to register is here. Continuing programming for Masters and Doctoral programs are also recruiting and available. DU has received a current research grant from Javits federal program. Program is entitled i-REEECH looking at underrepresented populations in rural areas. Dr. Reinert is now working full-time for DU as the project manager for this grant. Will be offering a 10-week, 45-hour CLD course this summer covering CLD needs within the gifted population. There will also be other summer opportunities to share with educators across the state.</p>
BOCES	<p>Terri Jones from CBA was not present. Michelle Barkemeyer gave a simple report in her place.</p> <p>BOCES GT Coordinators are meeting next week.</p>
CAEGTC	<p>Report given by Lindsey Reinert.</p> <p>Induction banquet was done virtually on January 23, 2021. There were 11 new inductees.</p> <p>There is a PayPal account through CAEGTC website where people can donate money that would impact gifted education across our state.</p> <p>Retreat is this Saturday, February 6, 2021.</p> <p>There is a new advisory role for the CAEGTC Board related to Equity, Diversity and Inclusion.</p>
CAGT	<p>Colleen Urlick gave report. Gave overview of conference in October and extension opportunity for others to still register and have access to keynotes and workshops.</p> <p>No CAGT in 2021 as NAGC will be in Denver November 11-14. Important to let people know that a separate membership renewal for CAGT (usually it is paid with conference registration). Scholarships normally offered for CAGT (i.e., Colorado Scholars, Scholars in Action, Teachers of Color, Mental Health Workers), will be offered this year for NAGC. Looking to expand scholarship to Legislators, gifted students, LGBTQ+, and others to build more connections across the state.</p> <p>Virtual Legislative Day is coming up on February 25, 2021. Registration is closed. Governor Polis is doing live remarks to start the day. Breakout sessions are currently being organized. This day is intended to connect gifted students to their legislators.</p> <p>Paula McGuire spoke with JBC (Joint Budget Committee) last week about gifted funding statewide.</p> <p>Conversations with CAGT is still happening every Tuesday at 5:00 p.m.</p>

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	Speakers Bureau still active and available.
Gifted and Talented Leaders of Color and Allies	<p>Joi Lin gave report.</p> <p>GTLCA is presenting at the Colorado League of Charter Schools' Annual Conference. Session: Where Are All The Students of Color: Challenging Racial Inequities in GT Strand: Exceptional Students Thursday, March 4, 2021 11:30 AM - 12:45 PM Session 6. https://coloradoleague.org/page/2021sessions</p> <p>Other activities and links: GTLCA Facebook Group Black Family Night February 11, 2021 GT Family Night in Spanish</p>
Gifted Education Coalition	Susan Scheibel was not present to give report.
Standing Committees –	<p><u>Outreach</u> Define what the goal of this group is? Reaching out to other advisory committees for collaboration and putting together an infographic for distribution to GERCs? How do they get the information distributed statewide?</p> <p><u>Legislative</u> Paula McGuire and Michelle Barkemeyer testified in front of the Joint Budget Committee (JBC) last week. They spoke to gifted funding in general, and learned some great ways to organize and approach this opportunity in the future.</p> <p>The RISE Grant was not received but committee shared some interesting information gathered related to our rural districts and their needs.</p> <p><u>Membership</u> Working on standardized letters for membership interest and appointment. Process for approval and appointment is being clarified and documented.</p> <p>Process and procedures flow chart--"if this, then that" so they can determine who to talk to about what.</p> <p>Attendance Form is part of Membership initiative so communication is improved with invites to meetings and confirming presence as well.</p>
Open Comment	Michelle Barkeyemer: RISE Grant was not received. Feedback on rubric was interesting but showed that the general public still has misconceptions about need for gifted education. Qing Hua had questions about how we present gifted students as well in a way that helps others understand the whole child.

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	Connolly Sherwood: All Means All folder; we need access but also need to make sure they do not have access after members have left. Need process and procedures for how to add to the folder--need a method for approval so documents are appropriate fit.
Upcoming Meetings	Next meeting is May 6, 2021. Retreat is set for June and dates TBD.
Adjournment	Connolly Sherwood moved to adjourn at 11:43 a.m. Michelle Barkemeyer seconded the motion.