

November 20, 2009

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Lucia Rowley, Madison Metropolitan School District and Jodi Fanning, Milton School District shared their experience from their attendance at the NAGC conference, November 5-8, 2009 in St. Louis, Missouri. **Power Point** highlighting the sessions they attended and summarizing what they learned is posted to the GDCTGN web site.

Talking points:

- Creative thinking skills in problem solving approaches: Creative Problem Solving, Synectics—analogy and metaphor; Creative dramatics; Scamper; Divergent Thinking; Risk taking.
- DeBono's Six Thinking Hats: the **WHITE** hat calls for information known or needed; The **RED** hat signifies feelings, hunches, and intuition; The **BLACK** hat is judgment—the devil's advocate; the **YELLOW** hat symbolizes brightness and optimism; the **GREEN** hat focuses on possibilities; the **BLUE** hat is used to manage the thinking process.
- Schoolwide Cluster Grouping model from [The Cluster Grouping Handbook](#) coauthored by Dina Brulles. More information from her at dbrulles@pvschools.net.
- Serving Underrepresented populations by Marcia Gentry
- Schoolwide Enrichment Model for Reading (SEM-R). Bookmarks available that highlight reading elements like plot, setting, character as a free download: www.gifted.uconn.edu/SEMR/about/talented-readers.html
- Maximizing the Power of Differentiation presented by Virginia Burney and Kristie Speirs Neumeister at Ball State University, Muncie, IN. Showed Blooms Taxonomy in comparison to amount of time that should be spent at each level of thinking. Should invert the hierarchy—the higher the level of thinking (evaluating and creating) the more time should be spent at that level particularly for gifted students. Say "NO" to RAGE (Random acts of Gifted Education). Focus on differentiation as a way to reach all learners. Include in teacher evaluation; don't count on AP to meet the needs of gifted learners; what about the freshmen and sophomores; the GT resource person should not be the only persona responsibility for the GT students. What does differentiated instruction look like in a classroom and that differentiation strategies manifest themselves in different ways. Differentiated curriculum is what good

teachers do! Differentiated classroom observation scale included in the power point. Differentiated curriculum is what good teachers do.

BUSINESS MEETING

- Minutes – Kitty Ver Kuilen correction to January meeting. It will be on the 29th of January. Correction Accepted
- Treasurer's Report – Elizabeth Bogard just recently received all materials. All entered. MM Acct still contains \$11000. checking at \$9000 but reflects annual expenses. All money should be sent to Marshall now—Address is: 623 Madison St. Marshall, WI 53559. Some discrepancies from registration and money sent. Elizabeth will confirm correct amount through e-mail. Martha move; Lynda second. Approved.

All money should be sent to:

Elizabeth Bogard; Marshall School District; 623 Madison St.; Marshall, WI 53559.

- Treasurer's address for business address on resources page on Website.

ORGANIZATION UPDATES

WCATY

- Testing services and counseling for GT students is now provided at the Psychology Clinic as part of the graduate training program. They offer services on a sliding scale. It is located on the Madison campus. Graduate students in training would like more experience working with gifted children. WCATY may bring in some grad students into their summer programs for this.
- Co-ops are up and running
- Will do Award ceremony for NUMATS Saturday, May 8—recognizes top WI testers grades 4 – 8; Invite 100 – 150 students. Online registration is open online until mid-December. Check out the NUMATS website for precise dates. Need to have **completed** the testing before March in order to be considered for the Award ceremony which is also a NU policy.
- Finalizing line-up for summer classes. Suggestions welcome. 10 classes within each program to address variety of topics. Now at UW-Madison. There are more opportunities available at this location.

UNIVERSITY OF WI—

- Educational Outreach & Partnerships. Now has 17 employees. Run the following programs: College for Kids, Saturday Enrichment, Technology & the Arts, Movin' Minds. WCATY fully on board in their offices. Kudos to Bob for getting the ball rolling. Questions directed to Nancy Blake
- November 21: Digital Dynamic Day—showcase two workshops in two different labs. Take some programs into districts so that is a possibility as well. Summer booklet available end of January. Next is Saturday Enrichment and the Spring Break with a Twist!

WATG

Please use the Forum on the WATG website for topic discussion. No additional updates

CESA 2:

Grant was revised and accepted. Spots for GEMS conference sponsored by CESA 1—ID in special populations. \$ approved to work with Scott from Whitewater to work on ID. Marcia Gentry protégé. E-mail from Wendy yesterday. Look at specific instruments for ID. Will bring to Greater Dane Cty.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Professional Development – Amy Miller, Kris Joannes, & Barb Hoeft.

- Instructional mentor model—Kris Johannes
- Administrators Breakfast: **February 9**—Save the date!
- March: feedback from breakfast—looking for guiding questions. Facilitators will take notes at each table so all will benefit
- May: 2e panel—how we work with Special Education folks in our districts. Case studies for dual identification
- Identification/Rtl – Lori Ott & Janell Dorn
- ID Goals: Create a tool as a visual—continuum of services; list of interventions/enrichment activities for curricular areas. How to tap in to resources. How to access services with no label. ID

FUNCTION GROUPS

- **Sunshine** – Barb Hoeft—report any needs to Barb

- **Administrators Breakfast** – Barb Hoeft & Amy Miller—2/9/10—share date with Administrators. Students welcome—2 max. More information to come. Located at community center in Waunakee

STUDENT PROGRAM GROUPS

- **Guest Speaker: BOB CLASEN**, regarding HAIKU contest

Bob received the Life time Achievement Award at WATG this year. He provided some history on the Greater Dane County TAG Network's contribution to the gifted. Programs include: College for Kids; Saturday Enrichment, Yahara River Writers Contest, Haiku & Math Meet.

Why we are here: "to help me be me!" See appendix for complete poem*

The Haiku contest is for fourth graders. Kids are challenged to create ideas within that poetic art form— a total of 17 syllables arranged in three lines: 5-7-5 syllables. It is a good indicator for exceptionalities in thinking skills in that it encourages creative thought with a leap of understanding. Sometimes the poems allude to a season. Sometimes it helps children cope with a trauma. It is a multi-faceted use of language meaning.. The celebration is held at Eagle School in February and is meant to be a recognition of those who have produced something extraordinary.

Many examples were read for us from the anthology that is published of the selected poems.

Haiku Chair Found! Jeannette Marshall from Lake Mills. Thank you for helping this event continue!

- **Yahara River Writers** – Martha Barlow—January 29—collection! All else is online Martha will send reminders
- **Math 24** – Lindsay Passwaters. Will also post online. Need a host for grade 5. window of dates is also online. Possible suggestions is to create a rotation of host schools like we do for Math Meet.
- **Math Meets** – Kitty VerKuijen Awards will be available at January meeting. Booklet is available online
- **Fine Arts Weekend** – Jeanne Mutchler BIG success! Gets better every year—planning starts now for next year. Great connection for budding thespians and other artists (advanced English students)
- **College Matters Forum** –Sharon Daly reporting; 96 students attend—full house. Well organized, meaningful for students. Suggestions for participation. Suggests that districts limit participation to 10 students per district. If enrollment is low, participating districts can bring more.

- **Recruitment:** Suggest talking to counselors regarding students who may be interested in Beloit College & Marquette. Work with guidance office for those who may not have parent support for the college search to attend.
- **D.R.I.V.E.N.** Leadership Conference – Kristy Champion chair. Room for 10 more students. Target those who are not currently in leadership opportunities. Suggest that the attendees look at the needs in their community—encourage mentorship of younger leaders.

NEW BUSINESS

- GDCTGN Organizational Structure—handout available and posted on website including the chairs of each committee.
- Treasurer Need—will purchase Mac version of Quicken for Marshall Schools.
- Ted Widierski Scholarship—add to the amount of \$212 for a selected student to participate in an upper level math opportunity (WCATY course access, for example.) Someone from Madison will assume responsibility for this scholarship/award.
Discuss further at the March meeting.
- Money Market Account—what to do with the \$11,000. Suggest small group work on this. Nice to HAVE the money if we need it. Do we need a process to request use of funds when need arises. Ideas: Poetry Event in Waunakee would need \$\$\$. SENG training; county-wide SENG group. Facilitators paid.
- Ways for GDCTGN to recognize students—
- publish pictures from our competitions and events. Put anthology or winning Haiku; award ceremony;
- Administrators breakfast student reps resume and names printed on bulletin. Will continue to generate ideas. Suggest providing work time during the meeting next time.
- SENG: group work during March—how structured

NEXT MEETING: Friday, January 29, 2010

Agenda Items

- Group work re: Ted W scholarship funds
- Yahara entries due
- Math Meet Awards available for Math Meet Regional hosts

Move to end business meeting: Lynda Olienik & Martha Barlow at it again!

*Appendix

Help Me to Be

Who am I? What am I? What will I be?

The world looks like trouble as far as I see.

My parents can't tell me—nor either my Friends

Just where the road goes-or even its bends.

Who am I? What am I? What will I be?

How can I find that if I am not free?

To think and to search—to probe and to quest—

To get in and out of each little mess?

Who am I? What am I? What will I be?

Can teachers, a school, or a book help me see

The way I must travel, the road I must go

Or help me get on with my own little show?

Who am I? What am I? What will I be?

Is it good to be boy—to b e girl—to be me?

And is it good to think as I do?

To which ones and which thoughts should I be true?

Who am I? What am I? What will I be?

Help me. Help me. But help me be me.

Robert E. Clasen © 1976