# OFFICE OF ACADEMICS

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**Gifted and Talented Advisory Panel**

General Overview, August 2019

The Office of Academics Gifted and Talented Advisory Panel (GTAP) was created to improve communication and participation of a broad stakeholder group, which includes parents, teachers, school administrators, and the community in the education of students identified as Gifted and Talented. In a spirit of cooperation and collaboration, a primary function of the Advisory Panel is to bring communities and schools closer together in building a long-term plan for program improvement aligned to the District’s Strategic Plan, Envision WCSD 2020.

The Advisory Panel is not a WCSD Board of Trustees sponsored committee and not a public body for purposes of NRS 241. Rather, it provides input to the Office of Academics. Input from the Advisory Panel may be used to inform the Chief Academic Officer and applicable staff members in planning for program improvement and making recommendations to the Deputy Superintendent, Superintendent, and the Board of Trustees.

Tasks of the Advisory Panel include:

* Informing the Office of Academics regarding development of a long-term implementation and monitoring plan based on the recommendations of a recent West-Ed study as associated with a strategic plan initiative;
* Providing review and feedback to the Office of Academics regarding applicable WCSD initiatives, and proposals;
* Identifying and proposing solutions to the Office of Academics for the improvement of programs and services for students identified as Gifted and Talented;
* Serving in a general advisory capacity to the Office of Academics

GTAP Members will:

* Meet every month, on the first Wednesday, beginning September 4, 2019. (exception January 8, 2020)
* Participate in developing mission, bylaws, meeting schedules, and group norms during initial meeting in September;
* Make a commitment to attend all meetings;
* Advocate for students when making decisions;
* Be familiar with general guidelines regarding the education of students identified as Gifted and Talented;
* Be prepared in advance of regular meetings;
* Agree to a one or two-year term commitment;
* Work collaboratively and collegially with fellow panel members;
* Participate with open mind;
* Contribute positively;
* Be responsible;
* Be fully engaged;
* Operate in confidence is required;
* Invite and welcome the contributions of others;
* Be diplomatic and

Panel Membership (19 members):

Revolving Term

* Chairperson – WCSD Director, Gifted and Talented Education Programs\*;

One-year Term

* Representative from Department of Equity and Diversity\* ;
* An at-large community representative (not a parent of WCSD student);
* Parent of a general education student;
* Parent of a student enrolled in an elementary school GATE School Within A School (SWAS) program;
* Parent of a student receiving services through a GATE send-out program;
* Parent of a student new to GATE services;
* Parent of a student who has received GATE services for more than one year;
* Parent of twice-exceptional GATE student;
* Teacher of SWAS program (\*nominated by Washoe Education Association);
* University faculty representation\*;
* General education teacher (\*nominated by Washoe Education Association);
* School Administrator at elementary, middle, or high school level (\*nominated by Washoe School Principals Association);

Two-year Term

* School Administrator at elementary, middle, or high school level (\*nominated by Washoe School Principals Association);
* Parent of a student enrolled in a middle school GATE magnet program;
* Parent of a student enrolled in the GATE Institute at Hug High School;
* Parent of a student receiving services through a push-in model;
* Administrator, Department of Gifted and Talented Education Programs\*;
* Facilitator, Department of Gifted and Talented Education Programs\*;
* School Administrator at elementary, middle, or high school level (\*nominated by Washoe School Principals Association).

\*These positions will be appointed directly by the Chief Academic Officer

Advisory Panel Application and Selection Process

Persons interested in serving on the Gifted and Talented Advisory Panel must participate in the application, interview, and selection process. This process applies to all applicants, excluding those members appointed by the Chief Academic Officer.

Term:

* Each candidate selected will serve either a two (2)-year or one (1)-year term as denoted above, which will allow for a more consistent membership as terms
* Single year terms begin August 2019 and expire May 2020
* Two-year terms began August 2019 and expire May 2021

Application

* + Persons, excluding those appointed by the Chief Academic Officer, interested in serving on the Advisory Panel must submit a completed application by 4:00 p.m. PST on August 16, 2019.
		- The application is available online [here](https://www.washoeschools.net/cms/lib/NV01912265/Centricity/Domain/68/17-18%20Fillable%20New%20GTAP%20Advisory%20Panel%20Application%20CD.pdf). If you prefer, you can pick up a print copy of the application at the 380 Edison Way, Reno, NV  89520 before 4:00 pm.  You can also request that an application be mailed to you through U.S. Mail by contacting Nan Olson at 775-861-4451, or by email at nolson@washoeschools.net.
		- No applications will be accepted after 4:00 p.m. PST, August 16, 2019
		- The application must be complete or it will not be considered
		- The application must be submitted in one of the following ways:
* E-mailed by due date to Nan Olson (nolson@washoeschool.net)
	+ Hand delivered by due date to the 380 Edison Way, Reno, NV 89520, Attention: Nan Olson
	+ Mailed to the 380 Edison Way, Reno, NV 89520, Attention Nan Olson (must be received by due date)
* Applicants will be notified of receipt of their applications status by August 19, 2019.
	+ Applicants not chosen for interview, or not selected following an interview may be asked to serve on a subcommittee of the Advisory Panel
* Interviews will take place August 20 & 21, 2019.
* The first meeting of the Panel is planned for September 4, 2019.
* Interview
	+ Applicants who are selected for an interview will be interviewed by a Selection Committee
	+ Applicants will be notified by phone by August 23, 2019 if they have been selected for a position on the Advisory Panel.

The Washoe County School District is committed to providing a safe and respectful learning and working environment for all students, staff, and visitors. The District prohibits bullying, cyber-bullying, harassment, sexual harassment, and/or discrimination based on an individual's actual or perceived race, color, religion, sex (including pregnancy), national origin, age, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, genetic information, veterans or military status, marital status, disability or the presence of any sensory, physical or mental handicap in any of its educational programs/activities and employment, or in any program or activity conducted or funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The District prohibits discrimination against any youth group listed in Title 36, as a patriotic society, (i.e. Boy Scouts of America) from access to public school facilities use.

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