

## Gifted and Talented Education Department

*Results of Board of Trustees meeting on March 09, 2021 and next steps for the department*

### Gate Administrative Staff

The BOT approved the following staffing reductions

- Eliminate GT Coordinator position
  - Duties will be absorbed by GT Director, including evaluation of itinerant teachers
- Reduce 1.4 School Psychologist to 1.0 School Psychologist
  - School Psychologist and Assessment tech remain to provide ongoing identification services and ensure universal screener is administered to nearly 10,000 2<sup>nd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders per year
- Eliminate GT Clerical Aide (*currently vacant*)
  - GT Secretary has taken over inventory duties of clerical aide
- Reduce total of 4 facilitators to 2 facilitators
  - The department will work over the next few weeks to reorganize the assignments and duties of facilitators to support all programs
  - A survey will be conducted to gather information from site admin and teachers on which functions/supports are the most essential for them to aid in this process
- Reduce total of 3 counselors to 2 counselors for 2021-22 SY and to 1 for 22-23 SY
  - The department will work over the next few weeks to reorganize the assignments and duties of the counseling team in collaboration with the Counseling department.
  - A survey will be conducted to gather information from site admin and teachers on which functions/supports are the most essential for them to aid in this process
- Eliminate .5 SWAS Music Teacher
  - The music department will continue to provide music services to SWAS students through the elementary school music model

### SWAS Program

The BOT did not make any changes to current SWAS programming, based on the 01/28/20 Board Action stating that the SWAS program would remain at Caughlin Ranch ES, Gomm ES, and Hunsberger ES through the 2021-2022 school year.

- The district will work on a proposal to implement a regional approach in the 2022-2023 school year to present to the BOT at a later date
- Each site will be staffed at the same level as the 2020-2021 school year
- Programming will not change for the 2021-2022 school year.

### Magnet Program

The BOT approved the proposal to continue Magnet programming at all four Magnet sites (Clayton, Pine, Sky Ranch, and Swope) with no changes to the curriculum or pathways, implementing a pilot Magnet AAP (Advanced Academic Placement) model at Clayton that will permit high achieving students to apply to participate in the Magnet program

- The GATE department will collaborate with Clayton MS administration to develop the parameters for identification of high-achieving students, based on the previous AAP model.
- The GATE department will review the talent search and watch list for students to invite to apply for the Clayton AAP Magnet.

## **Gifted and Talented Education Department**

*Results of Board of Trustees meeting on March 09, 2021 and next steps for the department*

- The GATE department will collaborate with Clayton administration to identify students at Clayton and other schools to identify students that will be invited to apply
- The GATE department will advertise the opportunity to apply to the program to families across the district
- All applicants will be submitted to the administrative review process already in place in the GATE department. Clayton administration will participate in the process for students that are high achieving but not identified as gifted.
- All other Magnet sites will continue with services to identified Gifted and Talented students only.
- Each site will be staffed based on enrollment numbers, per district policies and state requirements.

### **Hug High School Institute**

The BOT approved a motion to wait until December 2021 to make a decision about phasing out the institute and asked the department to continue to develop a Northern Nevada GT endorsement program and to market the Institute to increase enrollment.

- There is no change to the Institute model for the 2021-2022 school year
- The department will continue to market the Institute to GT students and high achieving students for the 2021-2022 and the 2022-2023 school years.
- Students will continue to go through an application process and applicants will be submitted to the administrative review process for acceptance into the program.
- The Institute will be staffed based on enrollment numbers, per district policies and state requirements

### **Itinerants**

The BOT approved the proposal to reduce the itinerant staff by 2 staff for the 2021-2022 school year and 2 additional staff for the 2022-2023 school year, dependent on student enrollment. If we are unable to serve students at the state-mandated 65:1 caseload ratio, allocations will be re-added.

### ***Other initiatives being undertaken by the GATE department***

#### **Northern Nevada Endorsement Program**

We are currently developing a GT endorsement program in collaboration with Northwest Regional Professional Development Program and Carson City School District that will be rolled out in the summer or fall of 2021. Courses to be offered through Southern Utah University to northern Nevada teachers.

- WCSD teachers will have access to the program at no cost upon acceptance into the program. Acceptance will include a commitment to teach GT students at teacher's school site as well as completion timeline and minimum grade requirements. Number of applicants accepted will be based on available funding.
- GATE department will collaborate with school sites to identify targeted subjects and grade levels invite teachers to apply in order to maximize the impact of GT services at minimal cost to district
- GATE department will provide ongoing PD to all endorsed teachers throughout the school year

## **Gifted and Talented Education Department**

*Results of Board of Trustees meeting on March 09, 2021 and next steps for the department*

### **GEMS Model**

The GATE GEMS model provides identified GATE students the opportunity to engage with rigorous curriculum in core content areas at their zoned school with a GATE endorsed site-based teacher. The curriculum is modified to be appropriate for gifted students and requires greater levels of complex order of thinking in collaboration with the Department of Gifted and Talented Education Programs.

- The GATE department will collaborate with principals at all levels to increase the number of teachers serving GT students at high levels at their zoned schools to create more GEMS schools
- Responsible scheduling will be encouraged for maximum effectiveness (clustering model)
- Itinerants will continue to provide support for schools not able to follow GEMS model