

Broad Based Planning Team
January 26, 2005
Minutes

Attended by:

Dr. Vicki Vaughn, Challenge Program Coordinator, Edgelea Elementary Principal
Mrs. MaryMargaret Foreman, Counselor, Challenge Program Building Coordinator,
Tecumseh Middle School
Mr. Jim Lilley, Counselor, Challenge Program Building Coordinator, Sunnyside Middle
School
Mr. Chuck Herber, Teacher Jeff High School, English Honors 12
Mrs. Tammy Hobbs, Parent
Mr. Andy Hughes, Parent, Chairperson for the Challenge Program Parents Group

Dr. Vaughn welcomed those in attendance. Minutes from the October Broad Based Planning Team meeting were distributed. No corrections were noted. Dr. Vaughn announced to the team that a draft for the Indiana State Standards for High Ability Learners would be available in February. These would be made available at the Indiana Association for the Gifted Annual Conference in Indianapolis. Dr. Vaughn is a member of the Department of Education Committee that has been developed the standards. Dr. Vaughn and Dr. Eiler informally evaluated our program using a rubric with the drafted standards. Our Challenge Program presents very well in relationship to the new standards. One area of concern highlighted with the new standards is the emphasis that our program does not presently have a K-12 Gifted and Talented Counseling component. The team members discussed the difficulty to find a counselor with a teaching background let alone one with a Gifted and Talented endorsement.

Dr. Vaughn reported to the team that because no Honors Algebra I class is listed in the high school curriculum guide, there would not be a weighted grade given to those grade 8 students that took Algebra in the middle school setting. There is no way to determine differentiations between the levels the students are enrolled in grades 7 and 8 Algebra classes. This is a concern for the Honor students. These students are concerned about how the courses and how grades and courses appear on transcripts, especially those that apply to elite colleges. The best possible option is for students to receive dual credit for advanced courses.

The Task Force, a committees of teachers, administers, parents and community members, will be making recommendations to the Lafayette School Board in March. The School Board will receive these recommendations in March but will not determine the course the Lafayette School Corporation will take until a late April meeting. Possible scenarios were discussed. The possibility of school closures, due to a reduction of state funding and/or the realignment of school boundaries and/or grade realignment make discussion difficult as to the effects on the present Challenge Program. Those in attendance agreed that the next Broad Base Panning Team meeting should be postponed until after the School Board has determined the best options for the students in the district. The March 16 meeting will be postponed until late April. Andy Hughes will place the new date on

the Challenge website for parents and the building principals and building coordinators will be notified when a date has been determined.

At the next meeting, course mapping and academic counselors at the high school level will be discussed along with the School Boards decision and how it might impact the present Challenge Program.

Dr. Vaughn thanked those in attendance for their time and interest in the Challenge Program.