Present: Lily Albright, Christopher Audretsch, Joanne Audretsch, Margaret Baechtold, Becca Cambridge, Lana Cummings, Denise Dorsey, Rachel Hardy, Donna Kinkead, Nancy Martin, Pat Marvin, David Sabbagh, and Kim Williams.

Absent: Holly Bales-Hall, Jan Bergeson, Tanja Bisesi, Janice Bizzari, Whitney Coake, Joe Doyle, Sarah Franklin, Diane Hanks, Alexis Harman, Janice Hazelrig, Cheryl Lewandowski, Tammy Miller, Andrea Mobley, Rob Moore, Natasha Roe, Lacey Winckelbach, and Monica Zerfas.

1. Approval of October 2013 Minutes- Donna Kinkead moved to approve, Nancy Martin seconded and minutes were unanimously approved.

2. Coordinator’s Report-
   a. Elementary School- The HA Grant will continue to support a class size instructional assistant for the elementary ALPS program for second semester. The assistant works 5 hours a day, 25 hours a week.

   b. K-3 High Ability ID
   • We are in the process of completing the K-3 screening/identification process for 2013-14. The three domains designated and required by the state high ability mandate are: general intellectual, specific academic LA, and specific academic Math.
   • The identification process uses multifaceted assessments that include the KOI and Renzulli gifted behavior observation checklists, NWEA, AIMS Web, benchmark common assessments, and other grade level assessments. Some schools will be using additional activities that solicit high ability behaviors for the screening. Building norms are used for identification. Students must be receiving services/instruction to meet their learning needs in order to be designated on Skyward. I have been meeting with individual schools to assist with the ID process.
   • Students in the ALPS program and those recommended for a General Intellectual cluster at their home school are designated the same on Skyward. Students must have gifted behaviors as well as high achievement in both math and LA. Any changes in ID will be updated annually in Skyward. District norms are used for placement in the ALPS program.

   c. Middle School-
   • We have begun the application/identification process for incoming seventh grade students for the 2014-15 school year. We have 129 students that qualified for the initial ID pool, 120+ CSI AND 92% + Reading NWEA reported in 5th or 6th grade. Application packets, including letters inviting students to apply for possible placement in the middle school ALPS program, were mailed Friday, January 10, 2014. But, ANY sixth grade student may for the program.
   • We have scheduled a Parent Information Meeting for Thursday, January 16 at 6:30 P.M at Jackson Creek Middle School.
• Information about the application/identification process was sent to each elementary school, including the names of students who qualified for the ID pool. Information was also provided for school newsletters and websites and the information is on the MCCSC website.

• Middle school math placement recommendations will be submitted electronically this year. Jessica Willis created the document on Google Docs. This will make data collection for math placements much easier. Sixth grade students that meet the criteria to take the Orleans Hanna Algebra Prognosis will take the assessment in February. Placement recommendations for these students, Advanced 7th (8th grade level) or Algebra I, will be sent in late April or early May.

e. High School—we hope to have parents available at the 8th grade Parent Night at North and South tonight to provide information about high ability options and scheduling.

f. 2013-14 HA Grant—our application for the 2013-14 HA Grant was approved. We received $71,641.00 in grant funds this year; a $4698.00 increase (7%) from last year. These funds support professional development in high ability education (Great Books, AP training, NAGC), required cognitive testing, our instructional aide, and classroom materials for high ability teachers and students.

g. Professional development-
• Great Books Shared Inquiry Training—31 K-12 participants participated
• NAGC 2013—National conference was in Indianapolis November 8-10. We had nine people: 7 ALPS teachers and two district administrators attend. Kim Williams and Michi McClaine also attended a special session for Indiana administrators on November 7.

3. High School Credit Option—we will update the math and world language credit option processes at our February sub-committee meeting. Mrs. Williams will send out the documents to the committee to review/edit before the February meeting.