

MINUTES
High Ability Task Force Meeting
Monday, October 12, 2015

Present: Lily Albright, Janice Bergeson, Whitney Coake, Sarah Franklin, Molly Giddens, Alexis Harmon, Donna Kinkead, Nancy Martin, Andrea Mobley, Stephanie Montgomery, Rob Moore, and Kim Williams.

Absent: Christopher Audretsch, Joanne Audretsch, Janice Bizzari, Lana Cummings, Joe Doyle, Craig Fisher, Sarah Franklin, Alexis Harmon, Maggie Henderson, Cheryl Lewandowski, Natasha Roe, David Sabbagh, Matt Stanley, Lacey Winckelbach, and Monica Zerfas.

1. **Approval of May 13, 2015 Minutes:** Whitney Coake moved to approve, Nancy Martin seconded and minutes were unanimously approved.

2. **Coordinator's Report:**
 - A. **Elementary ALPS:** 2 sections of 4th grade, 55 students. We may be adding one new student this week, another at semester. We have a new teacher, Jessica Suri. GT licensed, taught science and social studies at Center Grove Middle School. Already lived in Bloomington. She and Whitney Coake are team teaching. There are 31 students in the fifth grade, 34 in the sixth grade. We are implementing a new language arts curriculum using MCT materials: vocabulary, grammar, prose, literature, and academic writing. We needed to have a challenging curriculum that is unique to the program. We are meeting twice a month for an ALPS PLC to work on this curriculum. All of the appropriate materials were purchased for the instruction.
 - B. **Middle School ALPS:** BAT: 7th-30, 8th 25; JAC divided into 3 sections per grade level: 7th-71, 8th-71; TRI: 56 7th, 46 8th. We have new ALPS teachers at each school. I am meeting with each team regularly as an ALPS PLC.
 - C. **Middle School Math Placement:** we have had a lot of issues with middle school math placement this year. We will need to create some language for the middle school course guides stating our position with online courses; specifically Algebra I. I will be working on the middle school math adoption as well as aligning course levels in the middle schools.
 - D. **HA Grant Application:** we have completed our 2015-16 HA Grant application and submitted everything but the signature pages. We received \$75, 280.00, \$2124 more than last year. We receive the maximum available because we identify at least 4% of each grade level and comply with all district requirements, including multifaceted identification plan and professional development.
 - E. **K-2 ID:** all students identified was entered into Skyward for the DOE HA AD report. The goal I listed on the 2015-16 HA Grant application was to increase HA ID at Title I schools by 15%.

3. **K-2 ID:** Molly Giddens shared concerns about not forcing identification just to meet quotas, increase numbers. Kim clarified that we do not have quotas for ID, but we do need to make sure that we find and ID underserved populations.

4. **Middle School Math Placement Process:** we need to come up with language that clarifies the process for both parents and schools. We need to update middle school math placement for incoming seventh grade students. We need to begin with middle school math course being taught in the elementary school. We will discuss our concerns and come up with some guidelines at our November meeting.