

# QUEST ACADEMY GIFTED ADVISORY COUNCIL

## QAGAC Meeting Minutes

March 5, 2009

### Council Members Present:

Tom Barker	Kelly Chapman	Cindy Gustafson	Dana Pearce	Genie Toner
Cecilia Bennett	Renee Fischer	Pam Jones	Stacy Tarbox	Lisa Yount
Kelly Brewer-Balch	Sam Gonzalez	Jim Malcolm		

### Council Members Absent:

Steve Bennett	Scott Gooch	Lori Lee	Nicole Rundell
Carmela Sardogan	Pooman Malholta		

1. Meeting brought to order: 6:09 p.m.
2. Welcome, review of February meeting minutes – **Tom Barker**
  - a. Tom Barker made welcoming comments.
  - b. Minutes from 2/5/09 meeting distributed; motion made and seconded to approve.
3. Treasurer report – **Pam Jones**
  - a. Total profit on magnets: \$15.62; all future sales will be 100% profit.
  - b. Total profit on dance: \$1231.20
  - c. Balance in QAGAC account: \$1246.82
4. Fundraising update – **Kelly Chapman**
  - a. 150 magnets ordered; around 80 magnets sold already.
  - b. Company made some non-perfect magnets; company is allowing the council to keep them at no cost. Council may decide to give them away as prizes or use some them in some other capacity.
5. Bowl-a-Thon April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2009 @ 1:00 – **Kelly Chapman**
  - a. Fundraising Chairman, Kelly Chapman, shared subcommittee's plan to send out a feeler letter to parents to determine how many students would be interested in participating in bowl-a-thon, and to see how many parents would be interested in playing as well.
  - b. Kelly Chapman proposed requiring a minimum of \$25 each for all bowlers to participate.
  - c. Lori Lee, Carmela Sardagon, and Kelly Brewer-Balch will develop language for bowling pledges.
  - d. Due to lack of volunteers to participate in a subcommittee to finalize details, Tom Barker suggested allowing Kelly Chapman and Lori Lee make decisions and share with the council.
  - e. Next steps will be discussed at the April council meeting.
  - f. Jim Malcolm asked council about plans for spending fundraiser money. Jim reminded council to supplement what the district is responsible for, not to supplant.
    - i. Dana Pearce shared her hope that the council would consider using some of these funds for scholarships to help families pay for fieldtrips.
    - ii. Kelly reminded the council of previous discussion regarding the possible use of funds to cover the cost of gifted speakers, teachers' wish lists, etc.
6. Council mission statement and goals – **Genie Toner**
  - a. Motion made to approve mission statement and goals, motion seconded; mission statement and goals approved.
7. Meeting with GCA Personnel re: field trips - **Cindy Gustafson/Dana Pearce**
  - a. Dana Pearce and Lydia Pinkowski shared that QA's goal is to have field trips that are integrated with the core curriculum, and have them build upon each other from year to year.
  - b. As part of the action plan developed to create a well planned program for gifted students, a meeting was held with GCA to help generate field trip ideas for QA students.

- c. Council determined intent to offer field trips no less than once per quarter.
  - d. Tom Barker described possible options for additional activities beyond ones sponsored by the school. These could be organized by the school but offered on the weekend or evenings with parent transporting and/or participating.
    - i. Examples: Math Night at Publix – for 4<sup>th</sup> grade, with \$50 budget, determine whether it is cheaper to buy a cake or make a cake; for Kindergarten, find specific shapes in certain aisles.
  - e. Lydia Pinkowski reminded the council that trips should build on one another, and should be aligned to the curriculum over three years.
8. SENG Summit 2009 – **Stacy Tarbox**
- a. Supporting the Emotional Needs of the Gifted.
  - b. Family event, located in Orlando, July 17-19<sup>th</sup>.
  - c. Parents attend sessions to learn about how to meet the emotional needs of gifted students; children enjoy fun activities.
  - d. Information emailed to all who have provided Stacy with an email address.
9. International Baccalaureate program at Springstead High School – **Cindy Gustafson**
- a. Springstead High School received final approval from the IB organization.
  - b. The IB program is counting on Quest Academy to be a feeder.
  - c. Recommendation made to have IB Coordinator, Cliff Wagner, come speak to the community this year.
  - d. Jim Malcolm reminded the council that Cliff Wagner was planning to attend and be a member of this council. Jim recommended having someone from the IB program participate in this council, especially in light of Springstead now having IB program.
10. E-mail address corrections – **Lisa Yount**
11. Open Agenda
- a. Stacy Tarbox suggested offering a parent institute specific to gifted children.
    - i. Cindy Gustafson recommended that more people help Poonam Malhotra with her subcommittee work, to create sessions and speakers for parent institute.
    - ii. Lydia Pinkowski recommended providing suggestions for speakers or topics.
  - b. Parent expressed concern regarding grading of the science fair project. District Office representative will address this concern individually.
  - c. A county wide grading policy will go into effect soon; current policy can be found on line in the Hernando County website under School Procedures Handbook – Grading Practices.
  - d. Tom Barker suggested that council members read Too Much of a Bad Thing, by Alfie Kohn, a book about homework.
  - e. Bring in used Capri Sun style drink pouches; school will receive .02 per pouch; because Stacy Tarbox is coordinating and collecting pouches, money will be donated to Quest.
  - f. Parent expressed concern regarding math books for 5<sup>th</sup> grade, his son is having to share a book; District Office representative will look into issue further.
12. Next meeting, April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 6:00 p.m. media center
13. Tom Barker motioned to adjourn, motion seconded. Meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

**Additional Attendees (as determined by meeting sign in sheet):**

Kathy Batchelor	Cathy Dofka	Fran Poland	Scott Rogers	Karen Striegel
David Bute	Linda Lopez	Judy Preuss	Sheila Rogers	Dale Travis
Kristine Brown	Lydia Pinkowski	One additional illegible signature		