

**Fontana Unified School District
GATE Parent Advisory Council Meeting
September 22, 2008**

Minutes

1. The meeting was called to order by Eva Fritsch at 6 P.M. Parent introductions followed.
2. Goals for 2008-09 School Year – Ms. Fritsch led a discussion of goals for the GATE program for this school year.
 - a. Goals suggested by Ms. Fritsch:
 - i. Form a strong GATE Parent Advisory Council
 - ii. Publish a parent newsletter 4-5 times per year. This newsletter will be published on the FUSD website, as well as to be made available through individual school sites.
 - b. Goals suggested by parents:
 - i. More enrichment programs (after school and Saturday) for students
 - ii. Speakers for both students and parents – perhaps there are community and/or district leaders that are GATE alumni who might speak to students about their experiences or as “motivational” speakers to encourage students.
 - iii. A more full, coordinated program like the Sequoia magnet program, at all school sites, with an emphasis on ensuring program quality, continuity and coordination across all school sites.
 - iv. More project-oriented, cross-discipline opportunities for students.
 - v. Involve parents and community as volunteers to supplement leadership pool.
 - vi. Possibly seek grants for additional funding.
 - vii. State funding was discussed; it was noted that roughly 4/5 of the GATE budget is distributed to the school sites annually based upon a per-student formula, and funds not used at the end of the fiscal year are returned to the district for use at that level.
3. Roles and elections – to form the Parent Advisory Council, volunteers were sought for 5 positions:
 - a. Chairperson – Brandy Segal
 - b. Vice-Chairperson – Nancy Menendez
 - c. Secretary – Joan Laiman
 - d. Historian – Isabel Costello

- e. Presenter Coordinator – Laura Parisi
- 4. Bylaws – to form a strong advisory council that will endure beyond the current volunteers, it was suggested that bylaws be adopted for the group, governing how the group will function. A draft of such bylaws was handed out for parents to review and comment upon to Ms. Fritsch either before or at the next meeting.
- 5. Next meeting: the next GATE Parent Advisory Council meeting will be held on December 8, 2008 at 6 P.M. in the Building #1 Conference Room.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Laiman, Secretary