

NAPAGE

northallegHENYPAGE@gmail.com
www.giftedTIGERS.org

An Affiliate Member of **PAGE**
(PA Assoc for Gifted Education)
www.giftedPAGE.org

NAPAGE

October 17, 2016
6:30 p.m. - Baierl Center

MEETING MINUTES

Welcome:

Jacki Herring welcomed everyone and introduced the 2016-2017 NAPAGE Officers. All building representatives to the Gifted Advisory Council (GAC) who were present were asked to introduce themselves. School district representatives, Sharon Kroll (Gifted Support Master Teacher) and Gwynn Maximo (Supervisor of Special Education and Pupil Services) were also introduced.

Treasurer and Membership Officer Rebecca Hufnagle invited everyone to become members of NAPAGE. Registration for the 2016-2017 school year is \$10.00 and is good through August 2017. Membership fees are used to cover the costs of affiliate fee to PAGE (PA Association of Gifted Education), the teacher awards given at the end of the year and the cost of mementos presented to speakers. Please contact Rebecca to become a member of NAPAGE.

Jacki opened the meeting by reviewing the mission of NAPAGE, which can be found at the end of the meeting minutes.

Business:

Gifted Advisory Committee (GAC)

The Gifted Advisory Council held its first meeting on October 11, 2016. Gwynn Maximo and Sharon Kroll summarized the main topics on the agenda which included a review of the District's comprehensive plan by Dr. Sherrer

(http://www.northallegHENY.org/cms/lib9/PA01001119/Centricity/domain/2185/2016/6-15-16/6-15-16_p_comp_plan.pdf) and an overview of the new math curriculum presented by Bob Bell, chair of the Mathematics Department

(<http://www.northallegHENY.org/cms/lib9/PA01001119/Centricity/Domain/1969/1-20-16%20Math%20Curriculum%20Review%20PPT.pdf>).

Upcoming Events:

On Tuesday, October 18, 2016, there will be a Community Connections Seminar from 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. at Ingomar Middle School. This is designed for parents of students in grades 6-12.

Consumer Concerns:

Jacki encouraged those in attendance to share their concerns which are then reviewed with Gwynn Maximo and Sharon Kroll at their monthly meeting.

Concerns discussed during this meeting:

- **Math Grouping Process** – Mrs. Kroll explained that the math grouping process is done at a building level with the building administrator making the final determination as to the groupings. She further explained that building population and balanced classrooms

NAPAGE

northallegHENYPAGE@gmail.com
www.giftedtigers.org

An Affiliate Member of **PAGE**
(PA Assoc for Gifted Education)
www.giftedpage.org

impact placement. The math tracks are fluid and a student could move up or down at the middle school and higher level. While the M4+ pathway will not change, a student could move down if he/she is struggling. A subcommittee is in place and is tasked with reviewing the data on specific standardized assessments to determine the effectiveness of the new math curriculum. The committee will continue to review the math track and the pacing guides in the Rubicon Atlas curriculum to identify any areas for improvement in implementing the new curriculum. Mrs. Kroll emphasized that specific questions should be addressed with the classroom teacher and then the building administrator.

- **English Language Arts Plus (ELAP) Screening** – this program was previously entitled Communication Arts Plus (CAP). The initial criteria for entrance into to the ELAP program for 3rd grade and above is a score of the 97th percentile or higher on the IOWA tests in the reading skills category. Additional criteria include grades, teacher input and writing ability. Because the IOWA tests are not administered to 1st and 2nd graders, Storytown benchmarks are the initial screening criteria for their placement in the program. Each student is assessed annually and inclusion in the program is determined annually, meaning, a student could participate one year and not meet the criteria the next.

Concerns to be addressed during a future meeting:

- Review and understanding of the homework policy when a student is at an I/O. Those present expressed concern that there are inconsistencies among teachers and buildings regarding this policy. There is also concern that not all building personnel are familiar with the screening process and IQ requirements. (the school work make-up guidelines can be found here: <http://www.northallegHENY.org/Page/289>)
- Ms. Maximo will share the screening and identification data at the November 14th meeting.

Presentation: Executive Functioning Issues in Gifted Children by Susan Oliverio, PhD.

Dr. Oliverio was introduced for her presentation: “He’s So Smart, But... Why Executive Function Skills are Important.” She provided a handout of her presentation as well as suggested resources for parents, which can be found on the NAPAGE website. Dr. Oliverio can be reached at 724-772-4949 x110. During the question and answer period, Ms. Maximo reminded parents of the Elementary Student Assistance Program (ESAP), which can be implemented to develop strategies to identify and address a student’s barriers to learning.

<http://www.northallegHENY.org/cms/lib9/PA01001119/Centricity/Domain/413/ESAP%20informational%20flyer%20pdf.pdf>

The next NAPAGE meeting will take place on Monday, November 14th at 1:00 p.m. at the Baierl Center. Please share ideas for future meeting topics or speakers with Jacki or Elinor.

Mission Statement:

NAPAGE

northallegHENYPAGE@gmail.com
www.giftedtigers.org

An Affiliate Member of **PAGE**
(PA Assoc for Gifted Education)
www.giftedpage.org

NAPAGE is a parent support/advocacy group. We are the North Allegheny chapter of the Pennsylvania Association for Gifted Education (PAGE). PAGE is a nonprofit advocacy group dedicated to helping gifted learners, parents and educators. You can visit their website at www.giftedpage.org for more information.

NAPAGE's mission is to advocate for and support gifted children and their families in the North Allegheny School District. We accomplish this by:

- Providing parent representation to NA's Gifted Advisory Committee (GAC and SEAC)
- Sharing experiences, concerns and successes
- Proactively addressing issues that arise
- Encouraging the use of best practices in gifted education

NAPAGE Officers 2016-2017 School Year:

President	Jacki Herring	412-952-1096
Vice President	Elinor Avigad	724-934-4334
Treasurer & Membership	Rebecca Hufnagle	412-367-4695
Secretary	Amy Franz	412-952-5597
Website	Jen Husek	412-512-5430

Administration:

Supervisor of Special Education and Pupil Services
Gifted Support Master Teacher

Gwynn Maximo
Sharon Kroll

Building Representatives to the Gifted Advisory Council 2016-2017 School Year:

Elementary		High School	
Bradford Woods	Anne Yatchenko	NAI	Mary Lee Majewski
Franklin	Anisha Shah		Lingga Herman
Hosack	Kathy Dwyer		Yanbing Ye
Ingomar Elementary	Anne Paczula		Suzanne Bridges
Marshall Elementary	Dilhari DeAlmeida		
Peebles	Elizabeth Warner		
Middle School			
Carson Middle	Sue Gaertner		
	Melissa Tabbarah		
Ingomar Middle	Joe Greenberg	NASH	
	Mary Wolfe		
Marshall Middle	Julie Evanish		
	Harkirat Dhingra		