

**Gifted Association of Missouri**

**Board of Directors’ Meeting**

**April 18, 2015**

A quorum being present, President Robin Lady called the meeting to order. Lenae moved to approve the agenda and Tad Droste seconded. Agenda approved. Minutes from the November meeting with Debbie Green seconded. Motion passed.

**Finance Report-Finance VP (Shannon Fuller)**

There are two pages. One is the proposed budget. So far we are doing alright. A second paper is an itemized list of expenses. The finance met this morning and we got the new credit cards order and everyone that needs to be on the US checking account is now on the checking account. One discussion was cancelling the Amazon Prime account and the Barnes and Noble accounts. Questions were raised about the revenue for the 2014 conference. 2013 Conference Revenues $33,000. 2014—Sue Peters ballpark numbers $10848—total expenses conference revenue net $21300

**President (Robin Lady)**

Thank you all for attending today.  I truly appreciate each and every one of you and your efforts on behalf of GAM.   It has been a busy six months since we met.  First, I would like to publicly commend Debbie, Sue Peters, and all of the CPC members for the advanced planning for our upcoming annual conference.  They have worked many hours and completed much of the pre planning so decisions can be made in the CPC meeting.  And thank you David for being a constant mentor and sounding board for me in my first six months as president.  In November, Lenae and I, as well as other board members attended NAGC in Baltimore.  We’ve had several successful district workshops and events with more to come.  Two awesome GAMbits have been released, both earning several hundred dollars in adds, kudos Shelia.  On February 24, we had a great GAM Day at the Capitol with hundreds of students filling the Rotunda.  The First Annual Report from the Advisory Council on the Education of Gifted and Talented Children has been completed and sent to the commissioner and state board and on May 19, for the first time ever, the council and gifted education is on the agenda for a Missouri Board of Education meeting.  After the meeting, the report will be available for public download and use.  On behalf of the organization, I wrote the new Commissioner of Education, Dr. Margie Vandeven a letter congratulating her; visited the home of a board member whose child was injured and took meal gift cards, attended a meeting of the Missouri Council of the Arts, wrote the governor a letter requesting funding for the academies, spoke at District G & B conferences, attended a finance committee meeting, attended the NAGC Affiliates Conference, and facilitated a session there where Peggy’s Faces of Gifted document was highlighted.  Several learning opportunities took place at Affiliates conference last month, including many brainstorming talks with Sheri Stewart, President of the Kansas Association of the Gifted and Talented.  Our states are very similar in membership and conference attendance numbers and we discussed ways to collaborate as organizations.  Some ideas included attending one another’s board meetings, guest speaking at each other’s conferences, staying in contact with events and opportunities from each state and finally, the possibility of a regional conference.  While nothing has been decided, I feel it is important to reach out and collaborate with other states.  We can share resources and both benefit from a collaborative relationship.  They say it takes a village to raise a child, well it also takes a village to run an organization and I appreciate every effort from maintaining the website, increasing membership, completing a budget, and everything each board member does behind the scenes to promote the good of GAM, so thank you and I look forward to the continued success of this great organization.

Jessica from Kansas Association—Chair of Best Practices—Kansas is very similar in terms of membership numbers and conference. Looking at the way we advocate and what we can learn from each other. Attended our conference in the fall.

**Executive Vice President (Lenae Lazzelle)**

Affiliates conference in March. This is her first time. Get to know you activity and all the board members. Most exciting part was all the states talking about their conference. Grouped by different characteristics of conference and got to know what they are doing in their conference. Shared our information. Authors of Nation Deceived with their new book—Nation Empowered. It will be downloadable. Twitter feed is really good about the release. Spent more time on advocacy and then everyone got to meet with their leglistator. Good time to network.

FORMAL? To be emailed

**Membership Vice President (Meredith Burstin)**

As of 4/16, we are at about 380 members (there are possibly a few payments still in route).  This is up about 20 members from my last report, so definitely a source of celebration!  After I sent out my last renewal email there was still one member who wished to received a mailed brochure; given the low (30%) return rate I received the last time I did a mailing, I am hesitant to do so again.  That being said, I will start attaching the membership brochure to future emails as a way to hopefully make things easier for those who do not wish to go online.

I also spent some time contacting the gifted associations of a few other states -- Kansas and Iowa were the only two to respond -- and they both said very similar things:  anyone who attended the state conference each year automatically became a member; non-attendees could pay for a yearly membership. Unfortunately my follow-up questions were not addressed, such as pricing and membership benefits.  This could be an avenue to explore if we feel that membership numbers need to outweigh whatever revenue membership brings in, or if we have enough members attend state conference to make this feasible.

New report

**Conference Vice President (Debbie Green)**

Proposals for presentations were submitted and discussed. We decided on ordering tote bags with 500 with the GAM logo, but that they can be used. Flash drives for handouts will be donated by SLU. Kristy, Nancy G and Debbie are working on Vendor list since MU has a restricted list of vendors. Looking at working in a time for the campus tour of MU. Bertie Kingore will be the keynote and she will be presenting a keynote and a breakout session for $2500 which is a reduced rate. Her expertise is in rigor and differentiation. We will also be covering her airfare, hotel, and meals. We are looking into the possibility of a book signing. Music from Columbia music. MU is paying for facilities and lunch, and luncheon. We will be offering a free booth in the vendor hall. Working on finalizing the meals. Boxed lunches will be on Saturday so that they can be traveled with around the building and there will be more formal luncheon on Sunday. Finances are looking very good thanks to MU. We are also looking at snacks for the morning and afternoon. Complimentary breakfast at the conference hotel Stoney Creek in Columbia. Down the street from Memorial Union. Room rate will by $99.

**State Director of Gifted/Advisory Council (David Welch)**

Advisory Council on the Education of Gifted and Talented Children

The new statewide advisory council on gifted has completed its first ever annual report and recommendations on gifted education. The Council will present the report and recommendations to the State Board of Education on May 19, 2015. The report will be made public after the presentation and on the Council website. The Council took their work in crafting the report and making recommendations very seriously and I was impressed with their commitment and the quality of the work they produced. The Council will meet next in Jefferson City on May 19, 2015.

AP/IB Exam Fee Reimbursement Program

Once again the appropriation is not enough to cover the entire cost of the exams. This year the students will have to pay $12 for each exam they take. Information about the program is available on the Department Gifted Education web page.

DESE Desk Audits

To fulfill the requirements of SB 599 that district report cards accurately indicate whether or not a district has a state-approved gifted program and the number and percentage of students that are served in a state-approved program, the Department is conducting desk audits of all state-approved gifted programs in April. An Administrative memo announcing this was sent to all school administrators. Gifted Contact persons will receive an email letting them know whether their data submitted in the October Core Data Cycle regarding

gifted education was in substantial compliance or whether the data contains discrepancies that need to be corrected. The review will look at the October Core Data submitted by districts to ensure that screen 25 outlining the district selection criteria was completed; only appropriate courses were listed as state-approved gifted with a program code of 08; all courses with an 08 program code meet for the required 150 contact minutes per week; and all teachers of 08 courses are appropriately certified. Please let your district contact

persons know that we will work with them to get the data corrected and bring them into compliance.

**Legislative Consultant (Kyna Iman)**

Houe bill 637 has passed and Senator Pearce will have a meeting on it. One of the first bills out of the house. Send information to our legislators in support. Had several great speakers in favorite of it. All spoke on floor debate.

Kristy Sommers adds the weight. Need people to testify at about 7:00 on Monday night, April 20. The senate position for the Missouri Academies.

House bill 1054 Bryan Spencer. He has a bill that would eliminate voted out of committee and select committee. Eliminates professional development. Oppose house bill 1054

New report in email

**Committee Reports**

**GAMbit –Sheila Bonner**

New report

Making more money on ads, but it does make it better . Would love to have more information from board members. This last edition had some great grab and go activities and some good information. Make more information. –email her about including gifted kids speak.

Advisory Council—Accepting nomimations. Must be a resident of Missouri and have some expertise about gifted education.

**Scholarship – Sue Adams**

Handout for the scholarships. One of her goals is to have the scholarships and nominations . Change the format. Link to the pdfs. Most you have to write a letter, but maybe you could have a Google form to use to speed the form. Another question is about the format for making the decision. May look at moving the deadline for Nicholas Green until June 1. Sue and Seth will work together to make sure the all the awards and scholarships are collect. All have a September 1 due date except for Nicholas Green.

**Teacher Education – Heather Tomicich**

 New Teacher workshop is July 20 and 21. Board meeting will be on the 21st and all of the task forces will meet as well. Lindenwood will be the meeting. Registration for NTW is a Google Form is already up to date.

**Parent Network – Dixie Youngers**

 Dixie was not able to attend . She is looking forward to working.

**Tech/Web Page – Seth Jaeger**

 Paypal has been integrated with website and 3 buttons have been created for various functions including payment for District A conference, District D conference, and Registrations.  All banners and buttons have been updated reflecting revised dates for GAM conference.  We have had 3,634 page views from 1474 users (65% new users) since the last board meeting.  Various other functions related to October's conference will be implemented including registration and call for proposals.



**Legislative/Public Issues –Sarah Ludlow**

 GAM Day at the Capitol is February 24, 2015. Students will get the chance to get in front of their legislators and show their support for gifted education in Missouri. The day's agenda can be found at: <http://nebula.wsimg.com/dd02927115d262e233faf5273696a501?AccessKeyId=26085D3D6B0761E711B5&disposition=0&alloworigin=1>

The winners of the Poetry Contest will be recognized at GAM Day and their poems read during this time. It was suggested that the legislators of the winners be contacted. For future contests, the students will need to include their legislator on the entry form. A letter will then be mailed to the winners' legislator informing them that they have a winner in their district.  Instructions for looking up legislators can be found on GAM's website under Advocacy.

Suggestions for next year's contest:

Have a link for the contest on GAM's main page vs. having to click through the "advocacy " link.

Contact legislators via a letter informing them if a student in their district won

Ideas for the contest?In the past we have done: Poetry, Essay on why gifted education is important, and the "Faces of Gifted" art contest.  Ideas for awards? Typically students get a certificate and gift card. Any other ideas?

GAM board members were asked to share what they do to celebrate gifted education in their schools. The goal is to have a list of suggested activities on the website for everyone to get ideas.

Potential Date for 2016 Gifted Day at the Capitol—February 24, 2016

**Public Relations–Brian Stuhlman**

 No Report—Working to develop some ideas. Getting information out and working with NAGC. Seven topics to be covered.

New report

**District Reports A-H**

**District A (Kristy Jackson D, Tad Droste AD)**

The GAM District A Conference “Ennovationg  Gifted” will be held on March 7 at Maryville University. Dr. Chris McGee <http://chrisrmcgee.com/p/about-me_14.html>  will be the key note speaker for the conference. Dr. Steve Coxon  has graciously agreed to serve as the host again this year. At this point we are waiting for registrations to continue to come in.  Session topics include: Coping with Emotional Intensity in Gifted Children,Working with Twice-Exceptional Learners, Principles of Fearless Leadership, Giftedness in English Language Learners, Bully Prevention in the Classroom, Stress Relievers for the Classroom, Everyone can code!, Community Enrichment Opportunities for Gifted Students

We also received a letter of welcome for GAM A Attendees from Mayor Francis Slay of St. Louis City who recognized the work that Gam is doing in the state of MO for gifted education.

2.       District A has a new Facebook page that will be used to post current GT articles, notifications, and events for the counties within the district.

3.       The second  edition of the  GAM A Current newsletter was sent out to GAM A members in January.<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1xSDdeCtjz0U1MDjlHalJ2JbQOjsJkI9ToAIZwlGgVTk/edit>

 Update report

**District B—(Diana Casebolt D, Jennifer Medina AD)**

 District B is gearing up for our district workshop for our gifted families.  We will have an opportunity for parents to hear from Dr. Robin Lady, David Welch and Kyna Iman.  Our students will have sessions that stretch their minds through enriching and creative challenges.

Good turnout of the event. Rescheduled and a few bumps in the road. Had about 35 families. By the end they were networking with each other. Jennifer and Diana have some grand ideas for next year.

**District C Report (Cindy Turner D)**

 District C is working to bring the educators together to build support for the gifted that can go back on GEM day.

 Update report

**District D (Jana Gentry Smith D, Ashli Eaves AD)**

 District D is planning it's mini-conference, which will be held at Phelps Center for the Gifted in Springfield, MO on April 17 from 11-4. Registration forms have been emailed out, and Shannon Fuller and Seth Jaeger have kindly set up PayPal registration. We are trying to get an idea of the number of attendees, and select presenters. GAM members from outside the district are also invited.

Conference was held and it went well. 28 attendees. Feedback form is intended.

**District E (Ginger Beaird D, Tad Romsa AD)**

District E is working on a District Workshop/meeting in April or May in Poplar Bluff MO.  We are looking at dates and places currently.

Also, I will not be able to attend this board meeting and I haven't heard back from Tad Romsa yet to see if he can come for the Board Meeting for our District.  I'll let you know if I hear anything.

**District F (Ellen Stuhlman AD)**

 Barbara White hosted a meeting of gifted education teachers in our district in Macon on December 5, 2014.  We had great discussion time and came away with several ideas for our district and our gifted students.  We are currently working with a community college on plans for a district conference.

**District G (Vicky Bennett D, Ann Seider AD)**

 Weather was great!  People showed up! Teachers showed up! Presenters showed up!  All went well Saturday.  We even had 5 new GAM memberships!

We had 27 students attend with 25 adults for the morning program.  David Welch informed the parents of the requirements of  state certified gifted programs and how the numbers have changed over the past few years.  Robin brought them back up with her "Don't apologize for your child" speech and went over Kyna's report from Jefferson City with suggestions of why and how to contact your congressperson.  I think between the two of them gave some parents the incentive to join GAM.

Also, thank you Robin for being there when one of my presenters had to cancel at the last minute.

Allison Edwards then took over bringing insight to how the brain copes with stress and anxiety.  She gave the physiological reasons and paired them with the psychological reactions.  She also gave some tools to the parents about how to help your child deal with anxiety from personal experiences.  She is a wonderful speaker and all of us who heard her would wholeheartedly recommend her.  If you would like to visit her website, it is[www.allisonjedwards.com](http://www.allisonjedwards.com/)  I bought her book, Why Smart Kids Worry, and plan to do a review for the next issue of the GAMbit.

Thank you to Sue Adams, Brian Stuhlman and George Vellios for taking the teacher roles for the students.  Sue jumped into gravity, Brian played with animation and philosophical toys, while George had them all speaking Latin.

The teacher part had 7 teachers participate and did a study of the book "Exploring Critical Issues in Gifted Education".  Teachers took many of the case studies out of this book and discussed solutions to problems that gifted kids face in the regular classroom.  If you would like to do this book study, Sue and Ellen will be at the Oak Grove conference on February 21st.  Let me know if you would like information.

Finally, I would like to thank the people who made this happen.  Each year these people get together and we plan this conference.  They are all full of great ideas and honestly are the ones who make it happen.  Without them, there would be no conference.

Thank you to Ruthie Caplinger, Scarlett Richardson, Ann Seider and Sue Winters.

**District H (Stacy Davis D)**

 No report.

**Task Force Reports**

1. **Higher Education (Kris Wiley)** No Report
2. **Diversity Task Force (Will Perkins)** New Report
3. **Past President Task Force (Patty Cookson)**  .New Report
4. **Unfinished Business**
5. Bylaws and Board changes for finance fiscal year—A couple of words will be changed. GET WORDING FROM LENAE

Motion to change the bylaws was made by Robin Lady. Debbie Green seconded. Motion passed.

1. 2015 GAM Budget Approval –Shannon Fuller proposed a budget for the January to December 31st, 2015. Discussed with the finance committee. Motion to accept the budget. Debbie Green moved and Ginger Beaird seconded the motion to accept the budget. Motion passed.
2. **New Business**
3. GAMbit—Idea of putting GAMbit online at no cost. The idea was originally made by Steve Coxson to put it down. Could provide more ad view. Discussion to make it a model for information. May have more parents that come to us from. One idea is to post it only to the website to bring people to our website. Parent’s can have more information. Maybe add a donate button to the website for the GAMbit. Some ideas to include data tracking about what brought people to GAM. May have the first session

Sheila moves that we put the Gambit online for free starting after the annual conference. Cindy Turner seconded. May use the backlog as a membership item.

1. Lifetime Membership Discussion—Robin Lady brought up the idea that we have a lifetime membership to GAM. An idea would be to have a $500 lifetime membership. Discussion was that it was reserved as a significant contributions to GAM. Discussion discussed was to deal with the contact information and death issues. Motion to launch a lifetime membership of $500 for our organization. Shannon Fuller seconded. Motion passed. One opposition to the motion.
2. GAM Sources of Revenue—Tabled to the July meeting.
3. GAM brochure task force—Other states have a informational brochure about their organization. They are a brochure that shares the information. A Qcode to be included. Robin asked for samples. Peggy, Meredith, Robin, and Sue Adams volunteered to help Brian with create the document.
4. Announcements—Next board meeting will be Tuesday, July 21 at Lindenwood University in conjunction with NTW!
5. Missouri Scholars Academy runs June 7-27th. Full slate of speakers. Cost to come listen to speakers. If you are interested contact Brian Stuhlman.

Debbie Green moved that we adjourn. Meredith seconded. Meeting adjourned at 2:55.

Respectfully submitted,

Peggy Pennington

Board Members in Attendance

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| Lenae Lazzelle | Sheila Bonner | Sarah Ludlow | Cindy Turner | Vicky Bennett | Debbie Green | Meredith Burstin |
| Robin Lady | David Welch | Brian Stuhlman | Seth Jaeger | Tad Droste | Kyna Iman | Peggy Pennington |
| Sue Peters | Sue Adams | Kristy Jackson | Ginger Beaird | Diana Casebolt | Stacey Davis | Jana Gentry Smith |
| Shannon Fuller | Heather Tomicich | Dixie Youngers | Ellen Stuhlman | Jennifer Medina | Will Perkins | Lori Pinkston |
| Ashli Eaves | Anne Seider |  |  |  |  |  |