

## **AELP Parent Organization Board Meeting Minutes September 26, 2012**

**Members Present:** Nicole Petersen, Karen Peters, Andrea White, Mary Bush, Matt Robie

Guests: Lisa Glenn (Director of Special Programs), Penny Watkins (Southeast Parent), Tim Weigel (Westwood Parent)

### **Committee Reports**

#### *Finance*

- No update

#### *Communication*

- Nicole and Cindy are continuing to work with Karen Murphy on the website. They are putting together a list of elements to include and will send out to board members to review.

#### *Programming*

- Book Club: Karen is compiling a list of interested people and will start coordinating schedules after the September 30 sign-up deadline with the intention of starting groups in mid-October. Matt will ask teachers to send out a sign-up reminder to parents.
- Discussed possible ideas to include in the next newsletter(s): Early ACT and other tests coming up; Ankeny students being recognized for high test scores; story highlighting Quiz Bowl; high school issues (math credit, options available for students, how services are provided, etc.), math acceleration identification

#### *Legislative*

- No recent activity in the legislature

### **Information from Matt**

- He and Vicki Taylor met to draft a fall AELP presentation. The format will be a keynote speaker on behalf of the district (30 min.), a speaker from the parent group (20 min.), and two sets of breakout sessions (30 min. each).

Suggested speakers include Rosanne Malek, Jill Ulrich, and Dr. Roger Ginder (ISU)  
We will continue to think of possible speakers and reach out to possibilities to see if they are interested and/or available.

Topics for breakout sessions include the following: twice-exceptional students, opportunities for gifted students outside of school, social issues that AELP students face, perfectionism, elementary AELP identification and programming, secondary programming and opportunities/high school issues (math credit, changing role of the teachers), supporting gifted

education at home, supporting gifted readers, skills/classes helpful for the future, girls in STEM, academic acceleration, book club summary/discussion led by parent group

Date: Thursday, Nov 29, from 6:30 to 8:30

Location: AHS, Northview, or Prairie Trail (Matt will see what's available.)

A flyer will be emailed home via AELP teachers with perhaps an email reminder from teachers closer to the date. It will also be posted on our website and Facebook page.

Ann and Karen will keep in touch with Matt and try to have plans solidified by the end of October.

### **Information from Lisa Glenn, Director of Special Programs**

- She received positive feedback about the newsletter.
- Paul Gibbons did secure a grant from Rockwell-Collins for his Lego League Team, but they decided to forego the state grant because of time limitations but will pursue in the future.
- Elementary AELP teachers met regarding the number of students in buildings. Some have a larger load and others smaller than expected. The teachers brainstormed how to best serve students and decided they wanted to remain in their buildings and work to meet the needs themselves (rather than bring in help or shift teachers around at this point in the year). They are continuing to exploring flexible ways of providing service, including more frequent diagnosis to better match services with the time of need.
- A pilot is being done with Ashley Delaney, AELP teacher at Northview. She is spending time consulting at the PLC level with classroom teachers to enrich and extend core instruction by helping develop lessons that would be differentiated for students of all ability levels, recommending grouping strategies, designing open-ended activities, and using formative assessment to inform instruction. They are keeping track of recommendations made and implemented to determine if their use of time in this way has led to an increase in core teachers improving the quality of core instruction.

**Next Meeting:** Thursday, November 1, at 8 p.m. at Ankeny Pediatric Clinic  
Meeting Room

**Meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.**