

**ENFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION  
ENFIELD, CONNECTICUT**

**Talented and Gifted Subcommittee Meeting Minutes  
February 25, 2010**

- Call to Order:** Peter Jonaitis called the subcommittee meeting to order at 3:15 PM
- Present:** Donna Szewczak, Brian Jurkowski, Brian Zawodniak, Shelley Dickinson, David Guertin, Elaine Hayes, Richard Sullivan, Chris Scioscio, Rachael Fadziewicz, Sarah Brown and John Coleman
- Absent:** Joyce Hall
- Invited Guests:** Dr. Sally Reis, UCONN

The Gifted and Talented subcommittee met with Dr. Reis from UCONN Neag Center for Gifted Education/Talent Development. Dr. Reis discussed starting a gifted and talented (GT) program at the middle school. Her main points included the following:

- 1) The ultimate goal of a GT program is to produce a creative and productive individual (end result);
- 2) The definition/identification of GT students must match the program's design;
- 3) Internal consistency for the program is vital;
- 4) Don't ignore underachievers as potentially GT students as well as learning disabled students;
- 5) Visitation to other schools to observe GT programs is important. Mansfield Middle School has a strong GT program;
- 6) Start small. Dr. Reis suggested a pilot program at the middle school first;
- 7) Teachers interested in GT programs need to have gifted and talented training. This is vital;
- 8) Identification needs to take place in the elementary grades (3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>) once the pilot program is successful. We can use CMT scores, teacher nominations and grades to help in this process. This is key since the elementary schools will be our feeder schools;
- 9) Planning is important. Have a mission statement.

Dr. Reis does not charge for her time. She is happy to assist Enfield with this exciting process. The Neag Center for Gifted Education and Talent Development is a wonderful resource to have.

No actions were taken during the Talented and Gifted Subcommittee meeting.

The Talented and Gifted Subcommittee meeting adjourned at 5:00 PM.

Minutes Submitted by:

Brian Zawodniak  
JFK Social Studies Teacher