

Miami-Dade County Public Schools
Superintendent's District Advisory Panel for Exceptional Student Education
Gifted Sub-Committee Minutes
December 4, 2024

Attendees:

In-person: Beverly Heller, Maria Sellek, Jeannette Macias

Discussion Items:

- Goals were reviewed and progress towards each was provided.
- Goal 1: The ESE Panel Gifted Sub-Committee supports increasing identification of underrepresented students in gifted education.
 - Pillar I of the District Strategic Plan was reviewed and the goal for gifted was shared: Increase enrollment of underrepresented subgroups in advanced academic course offerings, including gifted, by 5 percentage points.
 - Over 12,800 NGAT-NV assessments were administered to Grade one students from November 13th - 22nd.
 - Almost 1,200 students scored at least one standard deviation above the mean and will be considered for possible gifted referral as long as they receive a minimum score on the Gifted Characteristics Checklist and they have strong standardized test scores.
- Goal 2: The ESE Panel Gifted Sub-Committee supports professional learning for **all** teachers, including teachers of the gifted, administrators, and staff members, on instructional resources and strategies to address the needs of gifted learners.
 - Advanced Academics partnered with Student Services to provide school counselors with four sessions focused on gifted characteristics and the referral process.
 - The sessions were designed to meet the specific needs of the different grade configurations. Two sessions were geared to elementary school counselors; one concentrated on the unique needs of the K-8 schools; and one was designed for middle school counselors.

- Goal 3: The ESE Panel Gifted Sub-Committee will share important gifted updates and information with community members and parents, with an emphasis on how they can work with their children to successfully realize their potential.
 - Shared information regarding upcoming webinar for teachers and parents titled “Assessing and Developing Executive Functioning Skills” hosted by the University of Connecticut. The webinar focuses on seven main areas:
 - 1)Task Initiation,
 - 2)Task Persistence,
 - 3)Organization,
 - 4)Self-reflection/Awareness,
 - 5)Emotional Regulation,
 - 6)Collaboration, and
 - 7)Self-advocacy
- Discussed locations and dates for future meetings.