

**Miami-Dade County Public Schools**  
**Superintendent's District Advisory Panel for Exceptional Student Education**  
**Gifted Sub-Committee**

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**Minutes from Meeting Held February 29, 2024**

**Attendees:**

*In-person:* Beverly Heller, Maria Sellek, Isabel de la Torre

*Via Zoom:* Jeannette Macias

**Discussion Items**

- Updates on Goal 1: The ESE Panel Gifted Sub-Committee supports increasing identification of underrepresented students in gifted education.
  - Gifted referrals as of February 1<sup>st</sup> include almost 800 English Language Learners (ELL) and over 1,800 students from low socio-economic backgrounds.
  - Gifted referrals will continue through the first week of April 2024.
  
- Updates on 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.
  - Professional learning highlights for December 2023 and January 2024 were shared.
  - Eighteen sessions were held in collaboration with the District English Language Arts (ELA) department. Information regarding high-quality ELA instruction for gifted students was shared with reading coaches and teachers.
  - Additional sessions included science learning for teachers at Fairchild Tropical Gardens and training in the use of Shared Inquiry and Junior Great Books.
  
- Progress made toward Goal 3: The ESE Panel Gifted Sub-Committee will share important gifted updates and information with community members and parents,

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with an emphasis on how they can work with their children to successfully realize their potential.

- Upcoming webinars hosted by the Renzulli Center for Creativity, Gifted Education, and Talent Development will be held on March 9<sup>th</sup> and May 11<sup>th</sup>. There is no cost to attend.
  - Advanced Academics staff members were present at the CPR Resource Fair held at ten district schools and shared information about Advanced Academic programs with parents, students, and community members who attended.
  - Taste of Confratute, a virtual session, will be held April 19<sup>th</sup> and is open to all. *Twice Exceptionality and Neurodiversity* will showcase two experts in this topic, Sally Reis and Susan Baum. There is a cost of \$89-99 to attend.
- The next sub-committee meeting will be held on April 18, 2024.