

FORMING A GIFTED AND TALENTED ADVISORY

The Gifted and Talented Advisory is an assemblage of individuals who bring a variety of perspectives and knowledge to the district discussions and planning of comprehensive gifted and talented programming. The Advisory typically does not have formal governing power; they serve to make recommendations and provide information and materials to the administrators and the gifted and talented staff in the district.

The purpose of a gifted and talented advisory is to ensure active participation in and an understanding of the district's gifted and talented programming. This requires the involvement of and input from a variety of stakeholders.

Be clear from the beginning about the role you want the Advisory to play. Establish guidelines and communicate them to prospective members. Individuals should know what they, and you, expect before agreeing to serve. For example, if your primary purpose and goal is to keep the committee informed of the project's progress, but they expect to have a decision-making role, they may become disillusioned with their experience in the group. This negativity could extend to the gifted and talented program.

When determining Advisory membership, consider including administrators, teachers of gifted, identified gifted students, parents of identified gifted students, and general education teachers. Members should span the K-12 continuum and be willing to participate actively in the group.

Set a meeting schedule, which for the current year will be guided by the timeline of the Gifted and Talented Academy. Use the Academy requirements to assist you in establishing an agenda for each meeting.

Use the guidelines above to determine the membership of your Gifted and Talented Advisory and complete the form below prior to attendance at the first Gifted and Talented Academy session.

Please bring a copy of this form to Session 1.

