



**KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
State Advisory Council for Gifted and Talented Education
(SACGTE)
SUMMARY**

NOVEMBER 12, 2025

SUMMARY:

I. Welcome

Gretta Hylton, Associate Commissioner, Office of Special Education and Early Learning (OSEEL)

Summary of Discussion: Gretta Hylton welcomed members and thanked them for their work in the interests of gifted and talented students across Kentucky.

II. Introduction of Members and Roll Call

Julia Roberts, Chair of the SACGTE

Summary of Discussion: Dr. Roberts called the meeting to order and conducted the roll call. Jarrod Slone reviewed the meeting norms and expectations.

ATTENDANCE:

Council members in attendance: 16

Council members not in attendance: 6

PRESENT:

Present Virtually: Abigail Wheaton, Carrie Ballinger, Cassidy Rosenthal, Hannah England, Jessica Hastings, Julia Roberts, Kimberly Clayton-Code, Lindsay Burton, Paulyn Covington

In Person: Amanda Wells, Brenda Martin, Sade McKnight

Non-Voting Members In-Person: Robin Hebert, Veda Stuart, Melissa Thompson

ABSENT:

Brandy Corbin, Diane Ford, Jonathn (Kirk) Hayes, Kim Walters-Parker, Lou Ann Gore Flanagan, Mason Dyer

III. Approval of SACGTE Meeting Minutes

Lindsay Burton, Secretary of the SACGTE

Summary of Discussion: Minutes from February 13, 2025, were given to members for review. There was no discussion or needed changes. Carrie Ballinger made a motion to approve. Hannah England seconded. Motion passed.

IV. Election of 2025-2026 Officers

Julia Roberts, Chair of the SACGTE

Summary of Discussion: Dr. Roberts turned the meeting over to Jarrod Slone for the election of officers. Nominations were opened for Chair. Jeanne Lee nominated Dr. Roberts, seconded by Paulynn Covington. No further nominations. Dr. Roberts was elected Chair.

Nominations were opened for Vice Chair. Paulynn Covington nominated Hannah England, seconded by Abigail Wheaton. No further nominations. Hannah England was elected Vice Chair.

Nominations were opened for Secretary. Hannah England nominated Lindsay Burton, seconded by Paulynn Covington. No further nominations. Lindsay Burton was elected Secretary.

V. School Report Card Update

Amy Patterson, Systems Consultant/IT Part B Data Manager OSEEL

Summary of Discussion: There has been a vendor change for the report card. They have separated the Primary Talent Pool from other gifted data. You can look at gifted data by years, grades and different demographics. Data can also be compared by school, district and state. Members asked a few different questions about how data was shown.

VI. SACGTE Priorities for 2025-2026

Julia Roberts, Chair of the SACGTE

Summary of Discussion: Dr. Roberts asked the council to brainstorm priorities for this year.

Dr. Roberts would like to raise awareness that gifted students are considered exceptional children and they have an IEP, the GSSP. Amanda Wells mentioned that we would want to ensure all gifted children were identified and receiving services. Brenda Martin mentioned the need for more transparency in the identification process, suggesting that parents be more broadly informed that they can submit their own evidence to demonstrate their child's giftedness. Hannah England brought up the issue that is difficult to ensure their ESL students receive appropriate testing-I.E. in their native language. Jessica Hastings mentioned making sure the language on the parent forms and feedback forms are simplified so parents can understand. Abigail Wheaton said it would be helpful if general ed teachers had access to GSSP and other materials in infinite campus. Several members talked about the issue of students having needed funds and the allocation of funds is used.

The council discussed how these ideas could be combined or integrated.

Brenda Martin motioned to table the conversation, seconded by Carrie Ballinger. Topic was revisited after lunch. A draft of 4 priority headings with the brainstormed ideas divided into

those groups was discussed and edited. Draft will be sent out and reviewed further at the next meeting. Abigail Wheaton made a motion to accept these as our working priorities, Carrie Ballinger seconded the motion. Motion carried

VIII. State Gifted Education Update

Lynn Lockard, Guidance and Support Branch Manager OSEEL

Summary of Discussion: Lynn recognized the newly appointed members of the council. She also introduced Melissa Thompson who is new to the OSEEL office. Jarrod Slone also introduced himself as the new council facilitator and discussed some of the other areas he works in. Lynn reviewed some of the council positions that will be expiring soon. She discussed some services and trainings that have been going out.

IX. Kentucky Association of Gifted Education (KAGE) Update

Julia Roberts, Chair of the SACGTE

Summary of Discussion: KAGE is planning a state conference for February 23 & 24. It will be at the Marriott Griffin Gate in Lexington. Registration is open. Sheila Gallagher will be a keynote speaker. There is a discounted rate for pre-service teachers to come to one day of the conference. KAGE is continuing to look for an executive director-applications may be submitted to the KAGE office.

X. House Bill (HB) 190 Update

Sarah Medley, KBE/KDE Ed Academic Program Manager KDE Office of Teaching and Learning (OTL)

Summary of Discussion: House Bill (HB) 190 (2025) passed last session and amended two different statutes to require school districts, no later than December 1, 2025, to establish policies by grade level for students in grades 4-12 that promote advanced coursework and accelerated learning in language arts, mathematics, social studies and science. The KDE created a guidance document to provide schools and districts with considerations for the use of preliminary assessment data and other criteria for identifying students. Local policies must also provide high school credit be students in middle school taking high school coursework if they receive a "B" or better in the course. HB 190 also requires the implementation of service delivery options for students identified as gifted and talented. Optional items that may be included are outlined. School-level requirements are also outlined. Hannah England asked about the "when practical" part of the bill that allows districts leeway in implementing. Sarah was able to provide some context that the leeway comes more in the authority provided to principals for scheduling/courses pursuant to KRS 160.345, however, schools and districts must still implement the curriculum requirements as provided in the bill. Members discussed various ways the bill would be implemented and potential issues that could arise.

XI. 2024-2029 Strategic Plan United We Learn Update

Susan Strange, KBE/KDE Strategic Plan Program Manager, Office of the Commissioner

Summary of Discussion: The plan has been finalized and they have had the first round of monitoring meetings. Susan reviewed the mission, the vision and the core values. She reviewed the eight goals and what they each entail and the performance indicators and strategies that align with each. The monitoring process is underway, and a new dashboard will soon be available on the Strategic Planning and Research page. Susan also encouraged the advisory group to champion the new assessment and accountability system and take part in creating their local accountability.

XII. Future Meeting Dates

Lynn Lockard, Guidance and Support Branch Manager, OSEEL

Summary of Discussion: We can potentially have 2 more meetings. We could have one on February 10, 2026, for the gifted proclamation month and the date of April 15, 2026, is also proposed. We will schedule for February 11, 2026, as a hybrid meeting from 10-2. The final meeting will be on April 24, 2026, from 10-2 and it will be entirely online. Amanda Wells made a motion to schedule future meetings on those dates in those formats. Jessica Hastings seconded the motion. Motion carried.

XIII. Questions and Additional Feedback

Julia Roberts, Chair of the SACGTE

Summary of Discussion: No new business. Amanda Wells made a motion to close new business. Jessica Hastings seconded. Motion carried.

XIV. Closing Remarks

Julia Roberts, Chair of the SACGTE

Summary of Discussion: Dr. Roberts thanked everyone for participating in the meeting. She shared some information about advanced course work.

XV. Exit Slip and Adjournment

Jarrold Slone, SACGTE Facilitator OSEEL

Summary of Discussion: Jarrod reminded everyone to fill out exit slip and turn in the reimbursement forms. Paulynn Covington made a motion to adjourn. Brenda Martin seconded. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned.