



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

FEB. 11, 2026

SUMMARY:

I. Welcome

Veronica Sullivan, KDE Division Director

Office of Special Education and Early Learning (OSEEL)

Summary of Discussion: Veronica Sullivan 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: Roberts called the meeting to order and conducted the roll call.

ATTENDANCE:

Council members in attendance: 14

Council members not in attendance: 8

PRESENT:

Present Virtually: Abigail Wheaton, Carrie Ballinger, Hannah England, Kimberly Clayton-Code, Lindsay Burton, Lou Ann Gore Flanagan, Mason Dyer, Paulynn Covington, Sade McKnight

In Person: Amanda Wells, Julia Robert

Non-Voting Members Virtually: Robin Hebert

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

ABSENT:

Brandy Corbin, Brenda Martin, Cassidy Rosenthal, Diane Ford, Jeanne Lee, Jessica Hastings, Jonathan (Kirk) Haynes, Kim Walters-Parker

NOTE:

Kimberly Clayton-Code left at 10:40 a.m., Mason Dyer left at 10 a.m.

III. Meeting Norms and Expectations

Lynn Lockard, SACGTE Facilitator, OSEEL

Summary of Discussion: Lockard reviewed the meeting norms and expectations.

IV. Approval of SACGTE Meeting Minutes

Lindsay Burton, Secretary of the SACGTE

Summary of Discussion: Minutes from Nov. 12, 2025, were given to members for review. There was no discussion or needed changes. Wells made a motion to approve. Wheaton seconded. Motion passed. Flannigan made a motion to postpone the legislative update until the presenter arrives. Seconded by Ballinger, motion carried.

V. State Gifted Education Update

Melissa Thompson, Gifted Education Consultant, OSEEL

Summary of Discussion: Thompson shared that the Gifted Student Service Plan (GSSP) is available to general education teachers through Infinite Campus. The Kentucky Student Information System Contact at each district will grant districts permission to view the GSSPs each year. She will be presenting at KAGE on differentiation for general education teachers.

VI. Legislative Update

Melody Cooper, Policy Advisor, OSEEL

Summary of Discussion: Cooper briefly reviewed the legislative process. She reviewed the statutes the legislature is considering this session. She also shared how to access and get information on bills on the legislature's website.

House Bill (HB) 553 is a language arts instruction bill. This bill gets into the reading curriculum and interventions. HB 257 relates to assessment and accountability. It adds some new indicators. HB 307 relates to post-secondary admission. It aims to reduce barriers to students' navigation of post-secondary education. HB 393 aims to expedite processes for military families. HB 389 focuses on reading and writing instruction in schools. HB 500 is the House

budget bill. GT funding is being maintained. HB 609 is related to a classroom library grant. It is for K-5 and directs KDE to work with classrooms and asks for a funding mechanism.

Senate Bill (SB) 3 relates to school district finances and transparency. SB 4 relates to the principal leadership program. It would require a five-year practicum and a mentor, as well as professional development. SB 22 is a dual credit scholarship bill that aims at teacher apprenticeship. SB 181 is a cleanup bill to the traceable communications bill passed last year. Bills must be filed by March 2 and 4 and the final day of the session is April 15.

VII. SACGTE Priorities for 2025-2026

Julia Roberts, Chair of the SACGTE

Summary of Discussion: Roberts would like to review the priorities and vote to approve them today.

Priority 1-Parent Engagement and Transparency: England mentioned that the portion about parents submitting a portfolio would not be applicable to General Intelligence identification or academics that have specific cut scores. Council members discussed the bullet-point language and edited it to make it clearer and more functional. England made a motion to accept priority one as it is currently written. Flanagan seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Motion passed.

Priority 2-Awareness and Opportunity: Members reviewed the language of priority bullet points and made changes to make them clearer and more functional. Wheaton made a motion to accept priority two as currently written. Ballinger seconded. A roll call vote was taken. There were not enough members present to make a quorum. Covington made a motion to suspend the meeting due to lack of quorum. Ballinger seconded. Meeting suspended.

VIII. Kentucky Association of Gifted Education (KAGE) Update

Julia Roberts, Chair of the SACGTE

Summary of Discussion: Roberts shared details on the proclamation ceremony for Gifted Education Month. KAGE conference is Feb. 23-24. The conference will offer many resources for classroom teachers. Roberts said there is a special one-day rate for teacher education students.

IX. Closing Remarks

Julia Roberts, Chair of the SACGTE

Summary of Discussion: Roberts shared some information about HB 190 related to advanced coursework.

X. Exit Slip and Adjournment

Lynn Lockard, SACGTE Facilitator, OSEEL

Summary of Discussion: Lockard reminded everyone to fill out exit slips and turn in reimbursement forms. The next meeting is April 24 and is virtual only.