

Quest Academy Gifted Advisory Council

Council Subcommittee Roles

Gifted Taskforce Oversight Committee:

- ❖ **Purpose:** To monitor compliance with the Gifted Task Force's recommendations, which were formally approved by the School Board in April of 2008. Recommendations can be found at QuestGAC.org.

Research Education Advocacy and Legislation (R.E.A.L.):

- ❖ **Purpose:** To gather research information regarding gifted education issues to distribute to our council members and parents, while also trying to stay abreast of best practices in gifted education. This would extend to working in tandem with the Program Development Chair to bring in speakers for our parents on these topics. This committee will monitor state, federal, and local initiatives related to gifted education and work in partnership with statewide advocacy groups such as the Florida Gifted Network and the Florida Association for Gifted. In an effort to promote a unified, statewide advocacy effort, this committee will work in concert with FGN and FLAG to provide Quest parents, educators, and administrators with information regarding rules, statutes, guidelines, and plans affecting or potentially impacting gifted education in Florida. When applicable, coordination of advocacy efforts may also be required.
- ❖ **Possible Research Topics:**
 - International Baccalaureate Program at Springstead High School
 - Gifted Endorsement Classes
 - Stress Management Strategies for Gifted Children
 - Motivation
 - Intensities & Sensitivities
 - Perfectionism
 - Disorganization
 - FLVS
 - EP's (Educational Plans)

Program Development:

- ❖ **Purpose:** To research and recommend to the council both social and enrichment opportunities for Quest students. This committee will coordinate the production of events and see that all details are accomplished.
- ❖ **Possible Program Topics:**
 - Guest Speakers
 - Odyssey of the Mind, Brain Bowl, Spelling Bee, Science Olympiad, Battle of the Books

Grant Writing:

- ❖ **Purpose:** To work in conjunction with administration and teachers in facilitating the process of applying for grants **specifically benefiting Quest Academy**. No experience in grant writing is required, however there must be a willingness to learn the process and cooperate with staff.

Entrance Committee:

- ❖ **Purpose:** To provide a resource for parents and students entering the gifted program, including a list of early characteristics for gifted children to aid in the identification of preschool students. To work in conjunction with the Department for Exceptional Student Education (ESE) to provide a district process for parents, teachers, administration and all district personnel to follow when a parent is concerned about whether their child is gifted. To provide ongoing revision and maintenance to the process, as needed. To provide the process documentation to the Early Learning Coalition, pediatricians, parents, Open Houses, Kindergarten Roundups, etc. **This committee will meet throughout the year, including summer months, in order to meet the needs of the gifted families entering the program.** This committee description will be revised, as it evolves.

Transition Committee:

- ❖ **Purpose:** To provide resources for parents and students who are transitioning from Middle School to High School. To work in conjunction with ESE to provide a district process for parents, teachers, administration and all district personnel to follow when a parent or student is concerned about the transition process. To provide ongoing revision and maintenance to the process, as needed. To provide process documentation to 8th grade gifted middle school students and their parents. To provide education and guidance concerning the high school academies, Advanced Placement (AP) courses and Dual Enrollment (DE) courses offered at each of the area high schools and how those courses are perceived by colleges and universities, in order to help parents determine the best scholastic path for their gifted child. **This committee will meet throughout the year, including summer months, in order to meet the needs of the gifted families entering the program.** This committee description will be revised, as it evolves.

Fundraising and Events:

- ❖ **Purpose:** To raise funds to carry out specific gifted related opportunities such as guest speakers, community related events, and assistance in the Quest Academy classrooms above and beyond what the school district should pay for, while also providing assistance on a case by case situation in which funding might be an issue. To assist with non-fundraising events, as needed, such as Quest Bowling Night, Teacher Appreciation, etc. To work in conjunction with the Volunteer Coordinator on all events.
- ❖ **Possible Fundraising Topics:**
 - Community Sponsors to Match Donations (i.e. Wal-Mart)
 - School Dances, Non-soliciting Fundraisers (i.e. Coffee Sales, Car Magnet Sales)

Communication:

- ❖ **Purpose:** To provide ongoing website design, upkeep, and maintenance.
- ❖ **Website Topics:**
 - Important Subjects/Events
 - Upcoming Events
 - District and Gifted Organization Links
 - Highlight Classroom Projects/Achievements
 - Highlight Quest Academy Programs/Grants/Awards
 - GAC Minutes/Agendas
 - Podcasts/Videos/Pictures

Volunteer Coordinator:

- ❖ **Purpose:** Provide Quest Academy teachers and parents a liaison between the GAC and scheduled events in which they may volunteer. The Volunteer Coordinating Committee Chair will also serve as a liaison between the “Classroom Parents” and the GAC. To coordinate parent volunteers and assign duties where needed at Quest and GAC events or on other subcommittees. To work in conjunction with the Fundraising Chair on all events.

Council Representatives for K-2, 3-5, 6-8:

- ❖ **Purpose:** To serve as a liaison between K-2, 3-5, and 6-8 parents, teachers and the Gifted Advisory Council in regards to communication, requests, information, and feedback. To work in conjunction with the Volunteer Coordinator on all events for the purpose of organizing teacher and parent volunteers, as needed.

Classroom Parent Coordinator*:

- ❖ **Purpose:** A parent who will serve as a liaison between their child’s class teacher and the other parents for that classroom. This is a full school year commitment. This is a Quest Academy volunteer position and must have the approval of the class teacher and Quest Academy’s Administrator. This position will also serve as a liaison to the grade-appropriate GAC Representative. Responsibilities may include but are not limited to: providing classroom assistance as needed and directed by the teacher, keeping a confidential list of classroom parent contacts for volunteer purposes, and providing the GAC with classroom needs or areas of opportunity in the classroom. To work in conjunction with the GAC Volunteer Coordinator and the Council Representative on all events for the purpose of organizing teacher and parent volunteers, as needed.

** The Classroom Parent Coordinator position is specifically for your child’s classroom. Please note that “Classroom Parent Coordinator” is a Quest Academy volunteer position and a liaison to GAC, not a GAC subcommittee. The Classroom Parent Coordinator application is obtained from your child’s teacher. All Hernando County School volunteers must be approved through the volunteer application process via the “Volunteer in Education” application, which is found at the Challenger K-8 front desk.*

Bylaws and Procedure Review:

- ❖ **Purpose:** To constantly monitor, review and update the by-laws, standards, and all other related guidelines pertaining to doing business as Quest Academy Gifted Advisory Council Inc.

Scholarship:

- ❖ **Purpose:** To maintain the continuity of the “Quest for Greatness” yearly scholarship.

Public Relations:

- ❖ **Purpose:** To report to the Gifted Advisory Council of Quest Academy on planned and/or ongoing activities concerning the community, the media, governmental and Challenger K8. Duties may include drafting press releases and making contact with persons in the media who can broadcast or print the material. All press/broadcast material must be approved by the appropriate officials of Challenger K8 and Quest Academy. The PR person may also represent Quest Academy at presentations and community meetings and gatherings and report such attendance to the Gifted Advisory Council. When appropriate coordinate activities with the Programs Chairperson and Fund-Raising Chairperson.