

Where Mankato Schools' Talent Development Program Now Stands

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2013-2014 Mankato Program Review

Recommendations for TD Program

- ▶ Full time Talent Development Coordinator
- ▶ Part -time Curriculum Differentiation Coaches for ELA and Math (2)
- ▶ School-site resource teachers to support cluster and advanced class teachers
- ▶ Articulated differentiated scope and sequence for grades 3-8
- ▶ Develop defensible identification process and program policies
- ▶ Use community committee to develop clear program provision, services support, program goals, policies, and program communication
- ▶ Ensure proportionate disadvantaged gifted children are identified and served
- ▶ Provide PD for cluster and for underserved program gifted program services
- ▶ Develop a K-12 scope and sequence of services to be provided, resources to be acquired
- ▶ Ensure community is regularly informed about TD program

Mankato Talent Development Program Progress

Recommendation	Action	Progress
Find funding for TD program development	Rogers and Westberg were able to get Javits Grant to upscale previous TD program and initiated Rising Scholars program	Done
Established collaborative team to implement Javits Grant	Karen Rogers, Karen Westberg, Heather Mueller, Tania Lyon, Cori Paulet, & Carol Malueg	Complete
Develop defensible identification procedure	Created universal screening process with CogAT, plus MAP scores, teacher recommendations for cluster students Created universal screening process with CogAT, MAP, teacher checklists for RS	Complete
Accurate Placement of Students in Needed Services	Students placed in Fall, 2015 for TD cluster services	Complete
PD for Cluster Teachers	PD services on giftedness, two certificate programs created, beginning training on selected differentiated materials for cluster teachers	In Progress

Mankato Talent Development Program Progress

Recommendation	Action	Progress
Identification of Rising Scholars and what their services would be	By fall, 2015, RS were identified and pilot program was field tested in two schools	Complete
Selection and implementation of ELA and math materials for cluster students	Michael Clay Thompson ELA materials, Navigators, Unjournaling, Jacob's Ladder, Beast Academy provided by grant and supported by Instructional Coaches	In Progress (6 th grade move**)
Selection of ELA and math materials for RS students	Navigators, Jacob's Ladder, Beast Academy provided by grant and RS resource teachers in 2 schools	In Progress
Talent Development Advisory	Set up, along with multi-strands of communication media by District TD Coordinator	Complete

Mankato Talent Development Program Progress

Recommendation	Action	Progress
New universal screening of 2 nd grade students for cluster and RS placements	Use of SWAT teams (both years) to administer CogATs, district personnel collaborate in identification process	Complete
PD on differentiated resource materials in ELA and math implemented	Combined use of UST personnel, resource developers, and district TD and GT Coaches to provide workshops for both cluster and RS teachers	Complete
RS program implemented	RS classes provided in 5 of 10 schools as part of grant experimental design	Complete
25 Mankato teachers complete GCT Certificate	Teachers provided with all 4 courses in hybrid format, all tuition and books provided by grant	Complete

Mankato Talent Development Program Progress

Recommendation	Action	Progress
Cluster/advanced classes in ELA and math provided 3-8	District PD provided along with resource materials for grades 6-8 in ELA and math	Complete
Whole class enrichment provided for K-2 students	3 demonstration enrichment experiences provided through year to 99 K-2 classes, teachers as observers	Complete
RS affective support sessions included in experimental schools	Counselors field tested first year of affective sessions for RS students 3-5 in selected schools	Complete
On-line ELA resources developed for cluster students	District TD Coordinator and Technology Director collaborated in development of vocabulary and grammar ELA strands	In Progress
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Mankato Talent Development Program Progress

Recommendation	Action	Progress
PD for cluster and RS teachers provided by district	Coaches and TD Coordinator have provided this on-going training in resources and acquired needed resources via the Javits funds	Complete
K-2 demonstration projects now in K-2 teachers phase	Coaches and TD Coordinator will be providing support as teachers take this over. 12 K, 12 Gr.1, 12 Gr. 2 activities will be left in K-2 teacher hands	In Progress
RS affective sessions	Provided for all 13 schools on weekly basis using 18 sessions per year. There will be 18 sessions for each grade level, grades 3-6	In Progress
Middle School and High School Differentiated Resources Selected	Remainder of Javits funding will be spent on resources	In Progress

Mankato Talent Development Program Progress

Recommendation	Action	Progress
SPGT certificate program teachers complete certificate	10 teachers are taking the last course and will be finished in December, 2017	In Progress
Identification process for TD and RS programs finalized	District has full control over the process at this point.	Complete

Results: Preliminary

- ▶ Community support for TD program has improved considerably since the program review was reported in early 2014.
- ▶ TD and RS identification procedures are “defensible”: approximately 10-12% of students are placed in cluster services and 10% of underserved gifted students are receiving Rising Scholars support in mathematics, ELA, and affectively.
- ▶ There are adequate resources in ELA and mathematics for both the Cluster and RS programs.
- ▶ There has been substantial improvement in ELA and math district scores among participants in these two program services.
- ▶ Students appear motivated by their respective programs and are showing growth in their test results
- ▶ A total of 35 district teachers have substantial background in gifted education and in underserved gifted populations education. Anecdotal evidence suggests they are implementing what they have learned, feel confident in working with these children, and have positive attitudes about the importance of what they are doing to differentiated for the unique needs of these students.
- ▶ Mankato Area Public Schools Talent Development program is emerging as a leader in providing defensible services on a daily basis and earning national recognition for its work.

QUESTIONS?