

## WCCSE Spring Meeting June 7, 2016

Hosted at Knowlton Township Elementary School

### In Attendance:

Ian Denzer-Weiler (Oxford), Maggie Devine (Warren Hills), Connie Drake-O'Brien (Greenwich), Bill Nutt (Great Meadows), Amy Horn (North Warren), Kelly Reed (Hackettstown), Nancy Young (Pohatcong), Vickie Demarest (Harmony Twp.), Kristin Baker (Mansfield), Loren Ackerman (Hackettstown), Kerie Pohlidal (White Twp), Gail Scovell (Washington Boro), Christine Drevitch (Brass Castle), Kim Reber (Knowlton)

### WCCSE Business

#### WCCSE Organizational Structure

##### Officers

- Chair: Kristin Baker, Mansfield Twp.
- Past Chair: Loren Ackerman, Hackettstown
- Secretary: Kelly Reed, Hackettstown
- Treasurer: Christine Drevitch, Washington Twp School District, Brass Castle

##### Executive Board

- Kerie Pohlidal, White Twp.
- Maggie Devine, Warren Hills
- Vickie Demarest, Harmony
- Connie Drakeobrien, Greenwich Township

-Email Update 6/11 from K.Baker: *Barbara Weinstein is stepping up to Executive Board Thanks, Barbara!*

Executive Board has room for additional volunteers... Maggie Devine is unsure if she will no longer be working directly with G&T, Kerie Pohlidal is retiring.

Executive Board- Discussion: Should there be a limit in terms for the officers / executive board?, Resolved: No limit imposed, Officers and Executive Board members will continue to serve as long as they wish.

Volunteerism- Is an important portion of the WCCSE. Without volunteering, our programs cannot be successful.

If anyone is interested in Co-Chairing with Kristin, the position is available.

The other leadership opportunity available is to join the Executive Board and move up to co-chair after experiencing the Executive Board.

Wiki Page: <https://wccse2012.wikispaces.com/>- Keep it up to date!!

-do not need to be signed in to edit. Edit with updated information regarding events asap.

-We will add space on the Wiki for Unit Plans and Best Practice suggestions

### **Social Media**

Discussion regarding Social Media to begin advertising our group:

-Should we start a social media position within WCCSE to have someone give us more of an online presence?

-Discussion regarding using student photos on social media, should we use faces? Does photo permission for a school district cover WCCSE?

-Resolved: For a starting policy we should do objects/hands only in posted photos

-Creation of a specific position tabled until September Meeting!

-Kerie Pohlidal suggests there being a photo permission for publishing on each event permission slip.

### **Fall Meeting:**

Connie Drakeobrien is offering to host the Fall Meeting at Stewartsville School on Sept. 15<sup>th</sup> (Awaiting Board Approval)

At the September Meeting, Kim Reber will show how to use [signup.genius.com](http://signup.genius.com) for event registration.

Email Update 6/11 from K. Baker:

*Connie has set up our fall meeting date and location:*

***9/15/2016, at Stewartsville Middle School 642 S. Main St Stewartsville NJ 08886***

*Our fall and spring meetings are full-day, 9:00 - 2:00, to allow for policy, programming, and whole group work; please plan to be available.*

*At 9/15/16 We will be addressing Equity and also will be developing a Mission Statement.*

### **Treasurer's Report:**

Ending Balance for 2015-2016 School Year: \$4282 Dollars (a little less after checks clear)

Income for 2015-2016 School Year: \$6,250

Total Expenses for 2015-2016 School Year: \$5,383

The Consortium Fee is \$300. This fee cannot be prorated for only attended events. We provide multiple PD opportunities, Parent Seminar, student events, support of G&T staff.

Registration form distributed. [Link here](#)

### **WCCSE Policies:**

Discussion: In the fall Connie, Loren, and Kristin will attend the County Superintendent Round Table Meeting to bring in more support for the Schools. (Will give handouts)

Nurse Coverage at Events:

-WCCSE does not provide a nurse at field trips; be aware and attentive to the needs of your students

-Epi-pens must be accompanied by trained delegates or nurse

-All school groups must follow state medication guidelines.

***WCCSE Policy is that ALL EVENTS are NUT FREE! Please include this in all paperwork and registrations.***

### **Eligibility:**

NJDOE is now presenting conflicting information on the use of PARCC scores as an identification measure for gifted programming eligibility.

PARCC: Bill A-4190 prohibiting such use is still in review; however, NJDOE info on PARCC FAQ for parents suggests a local decision.

Use caution in such decisions. If the bill does pass, decisions could be challenged later.

### **Insight Testing**

Knowlton found the results to be unreliable. Pohatcong- will continue to use the program with 2<sup>nd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>

Insight Testing: Discounted price \$8/child for districts that participated in pilot; \$10/child regular price for 2015-2016. G&T tests are only 3 sections, the full battery is approx. 8 sections.

**General guidelines:** Multiple measures, must begin in kindergarten, must measure against local cohort, balance objective with subjective information, use caution when re-qualifying. (If you have a re-qualifying policy, be careful if you cut a student from a program as parents can challenge your techniques.)

**Equity:**

At Confratute, it was suggested that students who are grouped as economically disadvantaged (Free and Reduced Lunch) should have their standardized scores viewed on a different scale representative of the fact that many of our economically disadvantaged students do not have the opportunities that others might have. I.e, summer camps, private lessons, etc. Recommendation: 75%ile viewed as 95%ile

Are our gifted-identified groups representative of our school demographics?

-Do you have a G&T grouping that matches the school population?

-For fall, Kristin will provide a recording form and would like each school to provide data for overall analysis of representation.

**Parent/ Teacher Seminars**

January 2016: Igniting Motivation with Alison Brown

- Attendance from 3 Counties, 7 Districts, approx. 30-40 people (including students, parents and faculty)
- Shall we bring Alison Brown back? Connie requests topic on 'quiet' child (Susan Cain), Vickie requests topic on executive functioning skills (Mind Print Learning- Dr. Wendy Matthews)
  - o Both will be investigated as possibilities
- Family game night- Maggie suggests a Makerspace/ family literacy night.
  - o Resolved – This event to be kept separate from Parent Seminars
- Parent Seminar possible dates: January or Late March (last 2 weeks of March)

**Professional Development needs: Program content and Eligibility determinations**

Programming PD (Content, unit plans, etc.) Loren is offering to lead this program during the school day tentatively at Mansfield. Date TBD in fall based on schedules.

Loren suggests book (What Do I Do with this Idea?)

WCCSE PD- Eligibility PD open to administration as well. To be hosted in May. Kristin is also available afterschool to meet at any point and is always available by email to assist.

**Mission Statement-** Please bring ideas for a general statement regarding intentions for WCCSE in September.

## **Event Proposals-**

Ann Ball from Phillipsburg will host and plan a 3<sup>rd</sup> grade STREAM event similar to Mindastics or Marvelous Math. "It would be a problem base activity that each group would work to create a solution using Science, Technology, Reading, Engineering, Art, and Math.

Kristin might have a contact for a tri county chess Tournament. Is there interest for K-8?

-Kristin will follow up with more information

Family Game Night- What age groups? When would be best for involvement?  
Afterschool or evening?

**Convocation 2017-** Power of Word and Deed with Walt Frasier (improv) and Joe Pizzo

-Week of March 6<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> in Blairstown at the Evangelical Free Church

Kristin Baker motions to send an honorarium of \$300 dollars to the Blairstown Evangelical Free Church in thanks for supporting programming from WCCSE. Bill Nutt seconds. Passes unanimous.

Kim will be liaison for site, Christine will handle registration.

## **Review of Programs:**

Battle of the Books 5/6: Hosted at Great Meadows Middle School by Bill Nutt. Nancy brings concern about *Salt to the Sea*. Kim suggests *The War That Saved My Life*. Kristin suggests *A Long Walk to Water*. April date TBD. Bill will send an updated list.

-Email update 6/9 from B. Nutt: *Although this is not set in stone, we're looking at Tuesday, April 11 for the Battle of the Books for grades 5-6.*

-Email update 6/8 from B. Nutt:  
11 Birthdays

Wendy Mass

Al Capone Does My Shirts	Gennifer Choldenko
Cracker! The Best Dog in Vietnam	Cynthia Kadohata
The Graveyard Book	Neil Gaiman
I Am Malala (Young Readers Edition)	Malala Yousafzai and Patricia McCormick
Island of Dr. Libris	Chris Grabenstein
It Only Looks Easy	Pamela Curtis Swallow
Kensuke's Kingdom	Michael Morpurgo
A Long Walk to Water	Linda Sue Park
The War That Saved My Life	Kimberly Brubaker Bradley

**Battle of the Books 3/4:** Thursday, May 18<sup>th</sup> list will be previewed.

Battle of the Books 7/8: Needs new Coordinator as Amy will not be working with the Gifted Population.

Battle of the Minds 5/6: Kelly Reed will continue to host at Hackettstown Middle School but will ask for a co-chair in September.

Battle of the Minds 7/8: Warren Hills? (will discuss in September)

Debate: Clora will host again but needs to be in January. Kristin will train judges in the fall if needed. Alumni students can judge.

Pringle Project: Up for grabs with Kerie's retirement. Phillipsburg Makerspace program? Discussed ideas to do as part of a program. Create at school and take home and mail to school? Cuts shipping costs.

Marvelous Math: Vickie will host in Harmony. December 9<sup>th</sup> with a snow date of December 16<sup>th</sup>. Grade 2 only.

Legos on the Loose: Thursday, January 26<sup>th</sup> 6:30-7:30 at Hatchery Hill School. Literature Connection will be kept.

*(Thank you to Kim Reber for continuing note taking)*

Mindnastics- Grade 4- Kim and Caralee will run again at Evangelical Free Church in October. Date to be determined.

Year Game 2017- any grades (usually 4-8). Christine will do it again in January. She will need help with working the wiki. Kristin might have a student that can help.  
-Email update 6/11 from K. Baker:

*Year Game - My former student (mathlete extraordinaire! now finishing 9th grade) that first gave this wheels back in 3rd grade has jumped on my invitation to take on a leadership role. We are talking about his creating video lessons to be posted on the wiki, etc. He will have some time over the summer, so please send suggestions or questions as to what would be most helpful.*

Chess Tournament- grade K-6 We will ask Mike to do it again this next year.

**\*\*\*We need a date and location – Is Allamuchy available? February/March?**

WCCSE Video Expo & Competition- grades K-8. Kim asked if perhaps we could have the chance to judge the videos before? Kristin thinks she will be able to do private YouTube links so the judges could see them in advance. Possible general theme for next year is "code". She will give us the quote theme in Sept.

Invention Expo will be Thursday, April 27<sup>th</sup>- 4th grade- 6:30-7:30. Loren will host again at Hatchery Hill School. Family friendly. Everyone is invited.

Phabulous Physics - Kristin will do March 3rd with a snow date of March 22nd. Registration date will be announced in Sept. Crash was a success and we will continue it. Rollercoasters will be continued. 3rd and 4th grade again.

Strategic Thinking Day- Grade 5 will be run by Vickie again in May right after PARCC. Joan should be coming again next year. Date will be given in Sept.

Convocation- Went well. New idea is mentioned above.

Robotics- Christine will be able to host again. We added beginners to it and this worked well. Older kids have an EV3, but Christine made sure they understood that they have to have the robots programmed. This is not a remote control event. Kim asked if we should add the Dot and Dash robots to the event. Kristin mentioned Ozobots too. Perhaps the consortium can write a grant to get some for the consortium. Knowlton also has a sphero. Kristin asked if we could meet for Robotics professional development in February.

Kristin then gave a [twinery.com](http://twinery.com) demonstration. It is a website that allows you/your students to create a “choose your own adventure”-like story. Check it out!

Respectfully submitted,

Kelly Reed

WCCSE Secretary