



Northville Public Schools Northville, Michigan

Advisory Council for the Academically Talented (ACAT)—Overview

Background

In the 2009-10 school year, the **Advisory Council for the Academically Talented (ACAT)** council will begin meeting again (last council was held in 2004-05). The committee will be comprised of parents, teachers and/or administrators from the elementary, middle and high school levels as noted below. The initial meeting will include a brief history of ACAT, as well as a review of the ACAT committee composition, role/purpose, priorities, processes and group norms every year thereafter.

Purpose and Role of Advisory Council for the Academically Talented

The Advisory Council for the Academically Talented is an advisory body that works to:

- Provide a support network for parents of academically talented children.
- Encourage parents' participation in their children's education and programs.
- Increase awareness and sensitivity of parents, teachers, school administrators and the public to the needs of academically talented and gifted students.
- Encourage and support the NPS in their efforts to provide a qualitatively differentiated educational program by which each child may advance toward his/her fullest potential.
- Enhance/strengthen the programs available to academically talented students.
- Locate, utilize and create resources to enhance educational opportunities for all persons interested in academically talented programs.
- Enhance a chain of communication between the parents, the community, the NPS administration and staff, the Board of Education, the community and all who are interested in the needs of academically talented students and the opportunities provided.

Council Composition

The Advisory Council for the Academically Talented shall consist of administrators, teachers, and parents with children in attendance at Northville Public Schools. ACAT representation will be as follows:

- Co-Chair: Parent
- Co-Chair: Curriculum/ALPS Facilitator
- Administrator from each level: elementary, middle school, high school
- Up to two teacher representatives from each level: lower elementary, upper elementary, middle school, and high school (not necessarily from ALPS or gifted/talented programs),
- Up to two parent representatives from each level: lower elementary, upper elementary, middle school, and high school (not necessarily from ALPS or gifted/talented programs)

Meeting Frequency, Timing, Location

The Advisory Council for the Academically Talented (ACAT) will meet one Tuesday, every other month beginning in November from 4:00 – 5 :30 p.m. at the Board of Education building ~ specific location to be determined.