



Zumbro Education District
Gifted and Talented Planning Committee Minutes
December 8, 2021
2:15 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

- **Introductions-** Those present were Becky Remmele & Janet Splinter, ZED; Denise Hadrath, Blooming Prairie; Rebecca Newsom, Byron; Sara Gillette, Hayfield; Jennifer Kujath, Kasson-Mantorville; Aimee Johnson, Stewartville; and Laura Lee, Triton. Lisa Myran-Schutte, Pine Island, was absent.
- **Read and Review Minutes-** The minutes from the September 15, 2021 G/T meeting were reviewed and no changes were made.
- **Program Updates-**
 - **Creative Writing Contest-** There were 355 writers this year which was about the same as last year. There were 140 writers from the 5th-6th grade division, 183 from the 7th-8th grade division, and 32 from the 9th-12th grade division. Janet will email the results to the districts within the next week, along with the participant per district chart. There was one paper that was disqualified due to plagiarism. Becky notified the appropriate teacher/district. The prizes will be journals and pens, as we have done in the past. The group discussed the option of having judges receive all papers at once instead of fewer papers each week for three weeks. We will discuss this further at the May meeting.
 - **Choral Fest-** The ZED Choral Fest was cancelled this year.
 - **Academic Triathlon-** The '21-'22 A/T Season has been cancelled again this year. Becky did discuss with the group an alternative option which is Melarian Mind Games. This was developed by Larry Stacy and John Meisch several years ago. Becky gave an overview of what this would look like and the group was in favor of bringing together the A/T coaches to discuss this as an option. It is probably too late to get this going this year but if USAT would cancel going forward this would be an option.
 - **ZED Traveling Art Show-** This year there will be both a Virtual and Traveling Art Show. Stewartville is in charge of providing the artwork for the poster. Becky announced the schedule.
 - **ZED Science Fair-** The 2022 Science Fair will be held on Friday, April 8, 2022 at Stewartville Bear Cave Intermediate School. The group talked about the need for judges and that they should be asking the volunteers for their local science fairs to also judge at the ZED Science Fair.. Becky has contacted the RAD Zoo about doing the presentations this year. In the past Blooming Prairie has always attended the Mankato Regional Science Fair and that is going to be virtual this year so Denise Hadrath is going to check to see if BP might be interested in attending the ZED Science Fair.
 - **ZED Summer Academy-** The '21-'22 ZED Summer Academy will be held June 13-17, 2022 at Triton High School. We still have scholarship money/donations from last year so we will include a hard copy of the scholarship form with the booklet/registration form this year.
- **Other Business –** There was no 'Other Business'
- **Next Meeting-** The next meeting will be held March 9, 2022 at 2:00pm at the ZED Office.