

**Santa Rosa County School District  
Gifted Education Task Force  
Report and Recommendations  
May 22, 2014**

**1. Task Force members**

**Sunny Ricks, Parent, Pace Area**

**Joann Cave, Parent, Navarre Area**

**Marilyn Shugart, Gifted Program Facilitator SRCSD**

**Victor Lowrimore, Principal, Woodlawn Beach Middle School**

**Diane Scott, Board Member, SRCSD District 1**

**Bill Emerson, Assistant Superintendent SRCSD**

**Lauren Sutton, Secretary to Bill Emerson, took minutes**

**2. Narrative Report to the School Board**

The task force met a total of 5 times beginning in January 2014 along with additional email communication among the members. We reviewed the process used to identify Gifted and Talented students and various delivery models. During our review, we examined Santa Rosa County's practices as well as those from surrounding districts. We gathered input from elementary teachers, middle school teachers, school psychologists, and also gained insight to the many opportunities at the district's high schools. In addition, the task force members were given an explanation of the funding process and how Exceptional Student Education funding is generated in particular. As the task force reviewed each area, recommendations were developed for consideration and then a final list of recommendations for the school board was identified.

### **3. Recommendations to the School Board**

- 1.** Brand our district ESE Services. (ie. FACES, SMILE, GEO,PACE)
- 2.** Develop a comprehensive district Gifted Education Plan.
- 3.** Develop consistency in the identification process at all schools. (ie. training teachers, evaluate the current screening tool, use of assessment scores, timeline)
- 4.** Allow use of the Standard Error of Measure identification model for use when School Psychologists deem appropriate.
- 5.** Investigate a feasible tool to allow for screening of all 2<sup>nd</sup> grade students.
- 6.** Investigate the development of a Plan B identification model.
- 7.** Fund Summer Workshops allowing district Gifted teachers to collaborate in writing Unit Curriculum. (up to \$8,000.00)
- 8.** Improve availability and viability of middle school gifted programs.
- 9.** Develop and implement a quarterly district wide high school gifted student community of innovative learning and problem solving.
- 10.** Assemble a committee to investigate the establishment of an International Baccalaureate program at one of our district's high schools.