

**Virginia Advisory Committee for the Education of the Gifted
Appomattox Regional Governor's School
Petersburg, Virginia
March 10, 2006**

Members Attending:

N. Adams	C. Dillon	B. McGonagill
D. Brown	J. Green	S. Roalf
E. Brown	R. Grillo	M. Roark
V. Carey	M. Hall Haley	E. Snyder
C. Chilton	M. Hardt	

J. Green, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Dr. Ruffa, Director of the Appomattox Regional Governor's School, gave a welcome as well as the background on the Governor's School. The school began the first year, in 1999, with only 91 students. The next year, 2000-2001, it had 350 students. The current facility, was formerly Petersburg High School, and is approximately 75 years old; renovations to convert it to Appomattox Regional Governor's School for Arts and Technology cost \$14 million. Fourteen school divisions are participating in its programs.

E. Snyder moved the agenda as presented, M. Hall Haley seconded, followed by unanimous approval.

E. Snyder moved the minutes with changes and attendance included. The motion was approved.

After group discussion, the *Reference Guide for the Development and Evaluation of Local Plans for the Education of the Gifted* was dedicated to Dr. Robert Turner. The motion was moved by M. Hall Haley and unanimously approved.

The committee was provided the first working draft of definitions to be included in the reference guide. B. McGonagill expressed some concerns had been voiced about specific definitions. It was noted that definitions are recommendations but do not replace regulations. Because of these concerns, the definitions of humanities, science, and social science were referred back to the Glossary Committee. The committee was given the direction to collapse what is there. It was noted that the changes would delay the release of the reference guide. She would like the reference guide released on July 15, 2006.

B. McGonagill gave a report from the Department of Education. Revision of Regulations Governing Educational Services for Gifted Students is initiated and supervised by the Board of Education. Within the NOIRA process, public comment is required at two specific junctures. However, a mailbox for public comment is open now and all comments

regarding the NOIRA may be made at anytime to GIFTEDREGS@DOE.VIRGINIA.GOV. The department has formed a small, separate advisory group to make comment on the revisions; their perspectives along with those of the VACEG and public comment will be taken to the Board of Education. The changes in the regulations will prompt revisions in the reference guide, as well.

R. Grillo gave an update on Project Promise. It is going very well with earth science and life science units to be taught this spring. The writing of the physical science curriculum will be done over the summer. Formal evaluation continues through the summer and the fall.

Local Plans for the Education of the Gifted for 2005-2010 are being reviewed. Of the 87 local plans submitted from divisions in June 2005, 76 divisions' plans have been approved.

B. McGonagill announced that the Mt. Vista Governor's School is opening in the fall and will make the 18th Academic-Year Governor's School, and that with its opening on the Eastern Shore does not have access to an Academic-Year Governor's School.

After enjoying a non-working lunch, we were given a tour of the Appomattox Governor's School.

The nominating committee was selected consisting of the Vice-Chairman, E. Snyder as Chairman, E. Brown, and M. Hardt.

Members of the committee concluded with a brief note of their current activities.

Motion to adjourn was made by C. Chilton, seconded by M. Hall Haley and unanimously approved.

**Respectfully submitted,
Marion G. Roark
Secretary**