

Virginia Advisory Committee for the Education of the Gifted
Sheraton Park South Hotel; Richmond, Virginia
September 22, 2006

Minutes

Members Present:

J. Green	L. Swope
E. Snyder	C. Dillon
L. Frye	K. Richmond
D. Brown	E. Brown
S. Foddrell	N. Adams
V. Carey	A. Wyatt
B. McGonagill	R. Grillo

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 am. J. Green requested that the nominating committee report be moved to after lunch, and the revised agenda was approved.

Corrections to the minutes were made for clarity, and the minutes were approved as revised.

B. McGonagill presented an update on the selection process for the new VACEG member nominees. The Board of Education has combined the process for accepting nominations for the standing Board committees through a Superintendent's Memorandum. New nominees will be voted on during the September Board meetings. Discussion of the group concerned how to ensure appropriate nominations of persons with adequate representation geographically and experientially, how to maintain inclusion of business and community members, and how to avoid overly weighting the committee with gifted education coordinators. It was the consensus of the committee that B. McGonagill will send the Superintendent's Memorandum requesting nominations to VACEG members and previous members, and to professional groups such as the Virginia Association of the Gifted, in order to ensure the nomination of potential members who are representative and knowledgeable in the field of gifted education.

R. Grillo began the Department of Education report with an update of the Project PROMISE activities. All of the curriculum units for life sciences, physical sciences, and earth sciences have been written and will be implemented by the teachers this year. The teachers have demonstrated remarkable professional growth in their abilities to write and implement this hands-on science curriculum.

B. McGonagill continued the Department of Education report by distributing maps showing that, with the opening of the new Mountain Vista Governor's School, most areas of Virginia now have access to at least one Academic-Year Governor's School. Three Requests for Proposals will be released this summer, as the Summer Residential Governor's Schools for humanities and for visual and performing arts, as well as the math/science/technology program at Lynchburg College will be needing new homes for the summer 2009. Concerns expressed by the Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine regarding one of the classes were noted.

Six of the Summer Regional Governor's Schools were evaluated this year. A. Wyatt, director of the Piedmont Governor's School, noted that the evaluation process was consistent and excellent, and that the data is both critical and powerful in ensuring the continuation and growth of the programs.

B. McGonagill reported that the Peer Review meetings for the evaluation of the 2006-2011 Local Plans for the Education of the Gifted will be conducted next week. The review of the five-year plans for all 132 school divisions should be completed by next year.

B. McGonagill continued her report with an update to the proposed changes to the current *Regulations Governing Educational Services for Gifted Students*. Technical issues have resulted in a new NOIRA being issued, with a public comment period likely to be scheduled for November. Public comments may be sent to Barbara.McGonagill@doe.virginia.gov.

The nominating committee for officers for the VACEG nominated K. Richmond for vice chairman and L. Swope for secretary. Those nominations will be posted through these minutes and an electronic ballot will be sent to the committee members.

B. McGonagill distributed the final version of the glossary for the Reference Guide. The complete document is posted on the Web site.

The committee members worked on identifying sections of local plans for the education of the gifted that were exemplary in the areas of identification, curriculum development, professional development, parent and community involvement, and delivery of services. Those exemplars will be used in the appendix to the final Virginia Plan for the Education of the Gifted.

Members of the committee who had completed their terms were honored, with certificates presented to those members in attendance, including C. Dillon, L. Frye, and A. Wyatt.

Reports from individual members of the committee were presented.

The 2006-2007 meeting dates were set for December 1, 2006; February 23, 2007; and April 20, 2007.

There was no public comment.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:40.

Respectfully submitted,
Ruth Grillo

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Minutes of the Executive Committee

Members present:

J. Green
E. Snyder
K. Richmond
B. McGonagill
R. Grillo

The executive board of the VACEG met following the full committee meeting to plan for the next meeting on December 1. It was decided that the new member orientation will be from 9:00 to 10:30, and will review what the committee has done and establish common ground for future work. J. Green and E. Snyder will invite the new superintendent of public instruction, Dr. Billy Cannaday, to address the committee from 11:00 – 12:00 to share his vision of the work of the committee. Additional time at the December meeting will be used to gather input for the DOE Web site, and to discuss the status of the work being done on the Virginia Plan for the Education of the Gifted. Guest speakers to present an overview of the governor's schools will include A. Wyatt, B. McGonagill, and J. Green.

The meeting on Feb. 23 will focus on the first revisions to the Virginia Plan, and to matching the Virginia Plan to the proposed Regulations. The April 20 meeting will include a visit to one of the Academic Year Governor's Schools.