

**VACEG**  
**Rockville Public Library**  
**Rockville, Virginia**  
**Minutes**  
**October 12, 2007**

Members present:

Barbara McGonagill  
Kitty Richmond, chairperson  
Sheila Roalf, vice-chairperson  
Lisa Swope, secretary  
Mary Jane Mutispaugh  
Margaret Turley  
Tomica Crosby  
Laura Hall  
Judy Williams  
Ellen Fithian  
Brian Pace  
Judi Greathouse  
Melissa Larsen  
Downy Roberts-Gabay  
Beverly Catlin  
Nancy Adams  
Diana Naff  
GerryTylavsky

The Virginia Advisory Committee for the Education of the Gifted (VACEG) met October 12, 2007 at the Rockville Public Library in Rockville, Virginia. Dr. Barbara McGonagill and Chairperson Kitty Richmond conducted an orientation of new members at 9:00 am, and the regular meeting was called to order by the chairperson at 10 am.

New and returning members of the committee introduced themselves. Both the agenda and the June 22 minutes were approved.

Dr. McGonagill announced the committee's 2007-08 charge from the Virginia Board of Education is the continued revision of the *Virginia Plan for Education of the Gifted*, which was last updated in 1996. The committee reviewed its recent documents, the *Reference Guide* and the *Glossary*, with no additional comments. Dr. McGonagill provided an update of the *Virginia Plan* revision process. Last year's committee produced a working draft that includes a table of contents, three completed sections (the introduction, a section on gifted students, and student eligibility for gifted education), and two sections yet to be developed (gifted education programs and gifted education personnel). Several appendices have been included and more will be added. Dr. McGonagill also updated the committee regarding the *Regulations* revision process.

Dr. Richmond led a discussion of the working draft of the *Virginia Plan*. She noted that the committee wanted its language to be user-friendly for the lay reader (parents and community members). She also indicated the committee's intent to offer "best practice" examples for localities to use to structure their own gifted programs, rather than proscribing one specific model that all localities would be required to follow. Dr. Richmond explained a shift in the focus of the revised plan from an emphasis on identification to an emphasis on services provided to gifted learners. A glossary was added to the revised plan to avoid weighing down the text of the plan.

Dr. McGonagill announced the release of information regarding the 2008 Summer Residential Governor's Schools, which will be available online to local coordinators on Monday, October 15. Dr. McGonagill also provided an update on Project Promise. The project received funding for its fourth year, and has shown a dramatic increase in SOL scores. A similar project has been conducted on a larger scale in North Carolina elementary schools, with the hands-on model also causing a comparable increase in state scores there.

Following a working lunch, the committee divided into two subcommittees to work on the development of *Section III: Gifted Education Programs*. One subcommittee will work on sub-sections A, B, and C (the program design elements of design/implementation/service options) and the other will work on sub-sections D, E, F, and G, as revised by the committee, (curriculum modifications/evaluation, parental rights, and local advisory committees and community participation). The first subcommittee is composed of the following members:

Ellen Fithian  
Mary Jane Mutispaugh  
Lisa Swope  
Brian Pace  
Margaret Turley  
Lennie Routten  
Sandra Foddrell  
Diane Sterbutzel  
Judi Greathouse  
Diane Naff  
Judy Williams

The second subcommittee is composed of:

Gerry Tylavsky  
Downey Roberts-Gabay  
Bev Catlin  
Sheila Roalf  
Nancy Adams  
Melissa Larsen  
Laura Hall  
Tomica Crosby  
Pamela Ward  
Ruth Grillo

Both committees' work will begin at the next meeting, which is scheduled for November 30 in Richmond. The committee also is scheduled to meet at the Southwest Virginia Governor's School in Pulaski on April 11, and again in Richmond on May 16. Dr. McGonagill offered to ask several local gifted coordinators to attend the next meeting to give the committee a better sense of how individual localities structure their plans and deliver services. Each member also was requested to bring a copy of their own local plan to the November meeting.

After an opportunity for comment, the meeting was adjourned by Dr. Richmond at 2:45 pm.