

**Virginia Advisory Committee for the Education of the Gifted Meeting**  
Minutes for May 4, 2011

Members Present: Brian Pace, Beverly Catlin, Tomica Crosby, Patti Davis, Elyse Devereux, Ellen Fithian, Judi Greathouse, Margee Greenfield, Reginald Johns, Veronica Kouassi, Diane Naff, Philip Tharp, Kerri Wilson, and Donna Poland.

Members Absent: Rebecca Akers, Matthew Edinger, Pamela Flaherty, Carol Horn, Amy Lamb, Richard Layman, Mary Jane Mutispaugh, Shelia Roalf

Chairman Brian Pace called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m. He asked that the nomination of a slate of officers be added as an agenda item. Margee Greenfield made a motion to approve the agenda with this addition. Judi Greathouse seconded.

Patti Davis moved approval of the minutes with corrections. Kerri Wilson seconded. The correction was adding Judi Greathouse's name to the Curriculum and Instruction subgroup for the Reference Guide.

**VDOE Report**

Dr. Poland gave her report.

Statewide Meetings:

Dr. Poland shared that she, along with Dr. Lee and Dr. Barry, have given four presentations on the VDOE twice-exceptional student document and they have four more scheduled this spring. Invited participants include the division's gifted coordinator, special education coordinator, school psychologist, testing person, and/or guidance counselor. Some divisions have questioned the accuracy of the data that was distributed at the presentation. Dr. Poland has asked those coordinators to follow up with her so any inaccuracies can be corrected. The data shows how many students in the division are in each of the designated subgroups and how many of them are identified gifted.

One member raised a question regarding Virginia building a K-16 data collection system so that students can be tracked after they leave high school. Dr. Poland stated that it was her understanding that eventually this would happen. The state also is reviewing online course options, which will be available to school divisions.

Summer Residential Governor's Schools:

Dr. Poland said there has been a strong response from students who are accepting placement to a Summer Residential Governor's School program. Because most students are accepting the opportunity, very few applicants have been taken from the wait list.

One member asked that at a future VACEG meeting we discuss ways to attract students from a range of school divisions to apply to the VIMS and NASA programs.

Miscellaneous

A member asked what the ramifications were if a school division does not submit a Local Plan for the Education of the Gifted. Dr. Poland explained that it is the responsibility of the local

school board to see that the division is in compliance. There are no fiscal repercussions from VDOE if a plan is not in place.

Bev Catlin shared that the College of William and Mary Center for Gifted Education is hosting a three-day conference in June that will have a session for gifted coordinators on the growth model initiative. She asked that we share this information with others in our region.

### **Review and Discussion of the Reference Guide**

The following groups worked on revisions to the Reference Guide for the remainder of the meeting.

- Philosophy, Goals & Objective— Beverly, Judi, and Margee
- Identification— Tomica, Patti, Veronica, and Phil
- Delivery of Services— Reggie, Diane, and Brian
- Curriculum and Instruction— Beverly, Judi, and Margee
- Professional Development— Tomica, Patti, Veronica, and Phil
- Parent and Community Involvement— Kerri, Ellen, and Elyse

### **Meetings for 2011–2012**

With the reference guide near completion, committee members discussed appropriate task(s) for this group next year. In the past, VACEG has developed reports for the Board of Education on topics of interest/concern. We suggested doing that once again. The topics we suggested were: revising the documents we developed after receiving feedback from local coordinators, researching effective strategies for increasing representation from typically underrepresented populations, appropriate services for gifted students at the secondary level, academic growth models for gifted learners, and professional development for teachers of the gifted. We will recommend to the Board of Education that the committee's foci for 2011–2012 be

- 1) Models for serving gifted students at the secondary level, and
- 2) Professional development for teachers of the gifted.

The dates for next year's meetings, as approved at the February 18, 2011 meeting, are

- October 7, 2011
- December 2, 2011
- February 17, 2012
- April 27, 2012

### **Slate of Officers for 2011–2012**

The following people were nominated.

- Chair: Beverly Catlin  
Vice-Chair: Veronica Kouassi  
Secretary: Mary Jane Mutispaugh

Officers will be voted in at the October 7, 2011 meeting.

### **Member Reports**

The following committee members reported on events in their program, school division, and/or region:

Brian Pace— Maggie Walker Governor's was congratulated for winning the We The People National Championship.

Beverly Catlin— She shared about a successful senior at her division's high school.

Judi Greathouse— Frederick County has worked with the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts to offer professional development sessions.

Margee Greenfield— She shared that the NASA/VIMS Governor's School is well into the planning stages.

Veronica Kouassi— Appomattox Regional Governor's School offered on-site three gifted education endorsement courses through Virginia State University.

Diane Naff— Region VI is doing a number of activities together. For professional development, they had Jack Naglieri come to the region to talk about his nonverbal test. As a region, they also are working with Rosetta Stone on obtaining licenses for gifted students, ESL students, etc. Doing this as a region is cost saving for each division.

Phil Tharp— Maggie Walker Governor's School is offering a summer program for rising 6<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade students in connection with the Center for Gifted Education, College of William & Mary.

Kerri Wilson— She thanked Dr. Poland for her presentations at VSBA meetings this year. She also reminded us that the VSBA Governor's Conference each summer has round-table events where coordinators can showcase what works in their schools. Contact your superintendent if you would like to present.

### **Closure**

On behalf of VACEG, Brian Pace presented to members whose term was ending, a certificate of appreciation for their service on the committee. They are Elyse Devereux, Pamela Flaherty, Richard Layman, Shelia Roalf, and Phil Thorpe.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:45 p.m.