

## **Virginia Advisory Committee for the Education of the Gifted December 7, 2012**

The Virginia Advisory Committee for the Education of the Gifted met on December 7, 2012 at Maggie L. Walker Governor's School in Richmond, VA.

Members present: Rebecca Akers, Mary Jane Mutispaugh, Beth Andersen, Sandra Cole, Joanne Funk, Patricia Ann Griffin, Sarah Gross, Catherine Ingrassia, Reginald Johns, Carol Kennedy-Dickens, Chiraag Khemlani, Amy Lamb, Lori Vaught, and Dr. Donna Poland.

Members absent: Beverly Catlin, Margee Greenfield, Carol V. Horn, Stephen Keith, Gena Keller, Diane Naff

Visitors: Amanda Davis Holloway, Richmond City Schools

Rebecca Akers opened the meeting.

Approval of the Agenda: Catherine Ingrassia moved approval of the agenda with the addition of the approval of the minutes. Lori Vaught seconded. All were in favor.

Approval of minutes: Lori Vaught moved approval of the minutes. Sarah Gross seconded. All were in favor.

### Department of Education report-Dr. Donna Poland

- At the September meeting, this committee voted to have Bev Catlin send a letter to the Virginia Board of Education regarding the next charge of the committee. The letter was sent and we are awaiting response.
- Articles included in member packets:
  - Math and Science Academy for high school students to be held this summer at four universities: VMI, Virginia Tech, Old Dominion, and Norfolk State University.
  - Residential STEAM Academy-could be a governor's school with the VDOE, a private school, a university laboratory school, or a charter school through a local school division. Unsure at this point how this program will be structured or funded.
- The academic year governor's school directors meeting was yesterday. They discussed professional development, teacher licensure issues governor's schools were facing when hiring university or professional faculty.
- Question from a member: Has any locality indicated that they are eliminating the local advisory committee since those are no longer required by Code? No information has been received at this time.

Regarding the Committee's charge from the Virginia Board of Education: The draft document, "Educational Opportunities for Gifted Students at the High School Level", was discussed by the committee. The timeline for finalizing this document was discussed. Subcommittees edited the draft

document today. A revised draft will be distributed through email after this meeting. Members are asked to be ready to finalize the document at the February meeting. Members broke into groups to continue to work on the document.

#### Subcommittee Reports:

1. Introduction: Donna worked on the table of contents and added new members to the acknowledgements. One group suggested that all hotlinks found in the document be available on one page as an appendix.
2. Accelerated Content: The group edited the section, adding links and inserting requested information.
3. Specialty Schools: Mary Jane tweaked this section and edited it for consistency throughout.
4. Beyond the Classroom: The group worked on the formatting and edited the section for clarity.
5. Differentiated Opportunities: The group edited for clarity of expression and alignment with the standards.

Brainstorming Possible Future Work: The group discussed possible tasks for this committee once the High School programs document is completed. Suggested areas of work include:

- best practices in demonstrating student growth of gifted students;
- Virginia Commission on Youth 2012 Legislative Studies and Initiatives findings may be augmented by a gifted piece (for example teacher preparation, assessing student performance) [vcoy.virginia.gov](http://vcoy.virginia.gov) ;
- teacher licensure regulations have just opened up for review and revision so we may wish to examine requirements for gifted certification/endorsement;
- educational opportunities for gifted students at the middle school level-pull, including a section on technology usage;
- best practices in integrating technology into instruction for gifted students;
- identification and services for primary students (K-1)

#### Member Reports:

Rebecca Akers, Brunswick-Brunswick is working on the gifted identification process and the under-identification of minority students.

Beth Anderson, Prince George County-pass.

Sandra Cole, Buchanan County-Buchanan is struggling with identifying elementary students and continuing the secondary program with strict budget constraints.

JoAnne Funk, Norfolk-pass.

Margee Greenfield, Summer Governor's School-Is getting numerous phone calls in regards to summer residential governors' schools.

Patricia Ann Griffin, VCU-Henrico County is continuing to work on identification policies.

Sarah Gross, Virginia PTA-pass.

Catherine Ingrassia, VCU and Hanover County Advisory Committee-Hanover has a new director of gifted education. They are working on a committee to address parental awareness, advocacy, and education.

Reginald Johns, Hampton City-pass.

Chiraag Khemlani, Business Representative-pass.

Amy Lamb, Middlesex County-pass.

Mary Jane Mutispaugh, Alleghany County-we are in the process of beginning the budget development for 2013-2014. Up to this point, our division has maintained all gifted programs as well as participants in Governor's Schools, despite declining enrollment and deep budget cuts.

Lori Vaught, VSBA Representative-pass

There were no public comments.

Rebecca reminded members that the next meeting will be February 8, 2013.

On a motion by Sarah Gross, seconded by Margee Greenfield, the meeting adjourned.