

Virginia Advisory Committee for the Education of the Gifted  
Maggie L. Walker Governor's School, Richmond, VA  
Minutes  
April 30, 2010

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 am by Chairman Brian Pace.

Members Present: Rebecca Akers, Donna Poland, Diane Naff, Beverly Catlin, Carol Horn, Brian Pace, Patti Davis, Reggie Johns, Tomica Crosby, Elyse Devereux, Gerry Tylavsky, Marge Greenfield, Sheila Roalf, and Lennie Routten

Members Absent: Judi Greathouse, Kerri Wilson, Pam Flaherty, Mary Jane Mutispaugh, Ellen Fithian, Richard Layman, Veronica Kouassi, and Phil Tharp

Gerry Tylavsky moved to approve the agenda. It was seconded by Rebecca Akers. Motion carried. Elyse Devereux and Lennie Routten made corrections to the minutes from the February 19, 2010 meeting. Beverly Catlin moved to approve the minutes with corrections. Lennie Routten seconded. All were in favor. Brian reminded members that the minutes were posted on the VACEG website on the Virginia Department of Education website.

<http://www.doe.virginia.gov/VDOE/Instruction/Gifted/vachome.html>

Brian Pace gave certificates of appreciation to Gerry Tylavsky, Beverly Catlin, Lennie Routten, Diane Naff, and Tomica Crosby for their service to VACEG. If an individual has only served one term, he/she is eligible to reapply and must reapply and submit the application form that will be sent through a Superintendent's memo.

Department of Education report by Donna Poland.

- **Status of the regulations:** There have been 63 comments on the regulations. Donna will be summarizing comments and making recommendations for minor changes. This will go to the board at their May 27<sup>th</sup> meeting. Donna does expect minor changes that will address some of the comments that have been posted. The next step is for the board to approve the regulations. If there are minor changes, the regulations will go back to the Town Hall for 30 days. If there are major changes, the regulations may have to go back through the sign-off procedure and back to the Governor for approval. Most likely, the earliest date that the new regulations will be in effect will be the end of July. Once the new regulations become effective, the state superintendent will notify school divisions of implementation timelines through a Superintendent's Memo.

VAGEC members and members of the public can view the petition and comments on the Town Hall at: <http://www.townhall.state.va.us/L/viewstage.cfm?stageid=5074>

Questions were asked about division's responsibilities until the new regulations become effective. Donna has communicated with division coordinators. Coordinators have been encouraged to do a one or two year roll over plan that includes updates from the previous five years. Once the regulations are approved, plans will need to be changed to become compliant with the new regulations. Coordinators are not required to mail plans to DOE. Instead, plans need to be posted on each division's website.

- **Governor's Schools:** Budgetary impact still includes a reduction in per pupil allotment (\$152.00 per pupil reduction). Technology funds have been restored to the budget for the AYGS Governor's Schools.
- **Summer Residential Governor's Schools:** Applications are moving along. Letters have been mailed to students. Donna is working to get letters back out to students that were returned due to incorrect addresses. Responses are due on Monday, May 3rd. Donna visited Radford University, host of the Visual and Performing Arts and Humanities Program. They are a new site for the program and are making good progress.
- **Twice Exceptional Document** – the document is almost ready. The document has gone through a committee of reviewers and changes have been made. It is currently being reviewed by the Assistant Superintendent in Special Education. After this review, it will go to the Assistant Superintendent of Instruction for a final review. Part of the document is tied to the new regulations. Therefore, some minor changes may need to be made as soon as the new regulations are passed.
- **VAG** - announcement of seminar on October 17-18, 2010 in Newport News, VA. Donna Ford will be the Keynote presenter, "Addressing the Issues of Underrepresentation among Black, Hispanic, and Low-Income Students". Donna Poland and Dr. Teresa Lee (DOE – Special Education) will be presenting on the Twice-Exceptional Document and Carol Horn will follow with a session of the division or school perspective of this document.
- **REL Appalachian:** The study will be attached to the recommended changes to the plan in response to published comments. The next step will be a case study of representative districts across the state to provide qualitative information about the issue of underrepresentation and disproportionalities across the state. This is expected to begin in the fall.
- **Understanding Virginia's Regulations Governing Educational Services for Gifted Students Document:** Committee or Donna may need to make minor edits due to references to the Standards of Quality. Suggestions were to assign a date to the SOQ quote. Discussion centered around the audience for the document. It will be viewed as a hard copy and on-line. Therefore, the links to new SOQs will need to be done. Once the regulations are complete, there may need to be a final edit by the full VACEG committee. The goal is for the document to be presented to division coordinators at the Fall Consortium meeting.
- **Reference Guide** – Brian Pace reported for the committee. He is working to merge all of the information together from the different sub committees. There are still problems with formatting, may need to re-type the entire document to make the necessary additions and changes. A new glossary of terms has been added. Today, the committee will work as a group to review what still needs to be completed.
- A discussion was held about the new Peer Review/Technical Review document. It was suggested that members here today may want to look at that document and edit it to make it

more reflective of the new regulations. Patti Davis and Beverly Catlin agreed to lead this committee.

Subcommittees broke into groups to work on the Reference Guide and the Peer Review Document.

### **Report out of committees:**

- Reference Guide: All sections are ready. Brian will clean up the document and forward it to Donna.
- Department of Education Technical Review Document: The peer review guidelines are tied directly to the template for the Gifted Plan. Worked on creating a new document that will match the new regulations. The committee will continue working on this.
- Brochures and Templates for Local Plan – Donna is working on these. Changes are dependent on the regulations going through. She is planning to work on them this summer.

### **Reports from members:**

Shelia Roalf- Prince George: budgets have been equitable

Elyse Devereux- Newport News: budget, will keep fully funding gifted, are expanding gifted classes in the elementary schools

Reginald Johns- Hampton: combined programs to a center based program (grades 3-8)

Gerry Tylavsky- IB program: York County G/T program, partners with a school of the Arts (invited to participate in Scotland)

Rebecca Akers- Brunswick: continued funding for Governor's School, revising 5 year plan, planning on additional professional development for teachers on referring gifted students

Tomica Crosby- Suffolk: superintendent has resigned

Patti Davis- Hanover: budget issues for gifted programs, gifted personnel and student enrollment, 5 year plan is ready for revision

Beverly Catlin- Charlottesville: added a summer enrichment academy (1 week 3<sup>rd</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grade)

Carol Horn- Fairfax: AP institute is a weeklong institute for teacher grades 3 – 12, bringing in National Speakers

Margee Greenfield- Rockingham County: Harrisonburg will be taking over Summer Regional GS

Brian Pace- Academic GS – 19<sup>th</sup> Gov. School will open this Fall, The Governor's School at Innovation Park, 5 directors from other Governor's Schools are retiring, cuts in budget, some have lost students

Diane Naff – Montgomery County: Budget reduction resulted in a lose gifted resource positions,

Summer Enrichment (K-8) is strong, working to have Blacksburg High School AP testing off campus

Donna Poland - Dr. Wright has been appointed as State Superintendent

### **Nominations of Officers:**

Patty Davis moved that the agenda be amended to include the nomination of officers. Beverly Catlin seconded the motion. The motion was passed.

Carol Horn moved to keep the slate of officers as is. Tomica Crosby seconded the motion and the motion passed. The slate of officers of officers will be presented and voted on at the next meeting.

Slate of Officers:

Brian Pace – Chairmen

Beverly Catlin – Vice Chairman

Mary Jane Mutispaugh – Secretary

**Suggested future meeting dates:**

August 27, 2010

December 3, 2010

February 18, 2011

April 29, 2011

Brian reminded members that the next meeting will be August 27, 2010 at 10:00 pm at Maggie Walker Governor's School. The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.