

Virginia Advisory Committee for the Education of the Gifted Meeting

Minutes from December 3, 2010

Members Present: Brian Pace, Beverly Catlin, Mary Jane Mutispaugh, Rebecca Akers, Tomica Crosby, Patti Davis, Elyse Devereux, Matthew Edinger, Ellen Fithian, Pamela Flaherty, Judi Greathouse, Margee Greenfield, Reginald Johns, Amy Lamb, Richard Layman, Diane Naff, Philip Tharp, Kerri Wilson and Donna Poland.

Members Absent: Carol V. Horn, Veronica Kouassi, and Shelia Roalf.

Chairman Brian Pace called the meeting to order at 10:00 am. He introduced the new members of the committee-Matthew Edinger and Amy Lamb.

Donna Poland requested a change in the procedure for posting minutes. She requested that minutes not be posted until they are approved by the committee. Kerri Wilson moved approval. Bev Catlin seconded. Kerri Wilson moved approval of the minutes of the August 27, 2010 meeting. Pam Flaherty seconded. The minutes were approved.

DOE Report-Donna Poland

- The Virginia Consortium for Gifted Education Administrators met in September. The focus of the meeting was the revised regulations. Approximately 116 people attended.
- Academic Governor's School Directors have met and will meet again on December 7 (Tuesday). NAGC had a construction challenge opportunity sponsored through Volvo <http://www.idodi.org/index.php/programs/construction-challenge> that may be available to our students through Governor's Schools.
- Donna presented a workshop at the VSBA Conference. There were many questions regarding the revised regulations with the increased responsibility for local school boards. Donna will email out the School Board presentation to gifted coordinators. Kerri will investigate the possibility of having a "Hot Topics" Conference sponsored by VSBA regarding the new regulations.
- The Twice Exceptional document has been posted through a Superintendent's Memo. http://www.doe.virginia.gov/administrators/superintendents_memos/2010/280-10.shtml The document may be found at http://www.doe.virginia.gov/instruction/gifted_ed/twice_exceptional.pdf
- Donna attended the NAGC meeting in November. She also attended the national association meeting for state directors of gifted education. There was much discussion on program standards at NAGC.
- Approval of Charter Schools has been added to Donna's job responsibilities.
- Summer Residential Governor's Schools: Startalk Foreign Language Academies have a grant tied to them. VCU will be doing Life Science and Medicine. Foreign Language academies went out

for RFP and no one submitted a proposal. Helen Small is currently negotiating with institutions to find a home for foreign language academies.

The following documents have been posted on the VDOE website:

Understanding the Virginia Regulations Governing Educational Services for Gifted Students

http://www.doe.virginia.gov/instruction/gifted_ed/ed_services_plans/understanding_the_regs.pdf

Local School Boards Roles and Responsibilities of Gifted Programs

http://www.doe.virginia.gov/instruction/gifted_ed/ed_services_plans/local_school_boards.pdf

Roles and Responsibilities of Local Gifted Education Advisory Committees

http://www.doe.virginia.gov/instruction/gifted_ed/ed_services_plans/local_gifted_advisory_committees.pdf

The draft template for local plan revision is complete. Donna asked that the group break into seven subcommittees to review the template for compliance with regulations and grammatical/technical errors. The following suggestions were made:

- Insert page numbers
- The division name should be included as a header
- More clarification on the division operational definition of giftedness
- Wording changes throughout
- Drop down menus for area of giftedness throughout the document would be helpful
- Switching between past tense and present tense throughout the document. Use present tense throughout
- Add new time frame (90 instructional days from parent permission) to the Eligibility section

Donna noted corrections. She will make the corrections in the document and send it to members for approval. All members should vote on approval as soon as possible and reply to Donna.

Several divisions have asked for a two-year extension in developing local plans that are due this year.

The Reference Guide will be sent to committee members for review.

Member Reports:

Brian Pace: Friends of Virginia Governors Schools are a huge support for governor's school programs. They will be sponsoring a day at the capitol to lobby general assembly. Next year will be Piedmont's 10th anniversary.

Bev Catlin: Charlottesville has been grappling with new regulations. Charlottesville is considering moving to Specific Aptitudes for identification.

Mary Jane Mutispaugh: Allegheny is beginning budget considerations for 2011-2012. Governor's schools nominations are being gathered for summer residential programs. Region VI will be offering a professional development opportunity in the spring.

Rebecca Akers: Brunswick has met with principals and school coordinators to review new regulations.

Tomica Crosby: Suffolk has a new superintendent, was previously deputy assistant superintendent.

Patti Davis: Proceeding on with local plan.

Pam Flaherty: Culpeper had a huge turnout for the Advisory Committee. There are many questions regarding the new regulations. VAG held seminar on new regulations. There will be a parent institute for Region IV in March hosted by Culpeper.

Judi Greathouse: Frederick County has filled all adjudication spots for visual and performing arts and has a record number for foreign language.

Margee Greenfield: Colleges are starting to meet "Blackhawk parents".

Reginald Johns: Hampton City Schools has just opened a gifted center for grades 3-8.

Richard Layman: Visited the school division for the first time since retirement yesterday.

Diane Naff: Still trying to build a new Blacksburg High School. Montgomery County got the eliminated gifted position back through Jobs Recovery Act.

Philip Tharp: Maggie Walker Governor's School is celebrating 20th year of operation. They have tracked the students from the first year to invite them to a special celebration on April 1.

The next meeting of the VACEG will be held February 18, 2010 at Maggie Walker Governor's School beginning at 10:00 am. Donna will be sending out requests to attend this meeting around the first of January. Please respond promptly. The approvals take about a month.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:45 pm.