

**Virginia Advisory Committee for the Education of the Gifted**  
**February 17, 2012**

The Virginia Advisory Committee for the Education of the Gifted met on February 17, 2012 at Maggie L. Walker Governor's School in Richmond, VA.

Members present: Beverly Catlin, Veronica Kouassi, Mary Jane Mutispaugh, Rebecca Akers, Beth Andersen, Betty Covington, Tomica Crosby, Joanne Funk, Judi Greathouse, Margee Greenfield, Carol V. Horn, Reginald Johns, Carol Kennedy-Dickens, Chiraag Khemlani, Amy Lamb, Brian Pace, and Donna Poland.

Members absent: Patti Davis, Ellen Fithian, and Diane Naff

Guest: Sabrina Beamon, Petersburg

Beverly Catlin opened the meeting at 10:00 am with introductions. She passed around a sympathy card for Diane Naff on the death of her husband last week.

Approval of the Agenda: Judi Greathouse moved approval of the agenda.

Approval of minutes: The minutes were approved with corrections via email.

Department of Education report — Dr. Donna Poland

- The clerk for the Virginia Board of Education has asked that minutes be sent to her so she can post them within 10 working days of the meeting.
- Monitoring student growth
  - The state is providing guidance on the teacher evaluation process, including recommending that 40% of the evaluation be determined by student academic growth.
  - Student academic growth percentiles are being provided by the state in Grades 4–8 for Reading and Math SOL tests and through grade 9 for the Algebra I SOL test. Students who score  $\geq 500$  on SOL tests for two consecutive years in the same content area will not have academic growth percentiles calculated for that year.
  - The Virginia Regulations for the Education of the Gifted also require annually reporting to parents on student academic growth. Local plans must specify how this will be done in a school division and how it will be shared with parents.
- The Department of Education website includes a new report that shows postsecondary enrollment and achievement reports. The site is [http://www.doe.virginia.gov/news/news\\_releases/2012/feb06.shtml](http://www.doe.virginia.gov/news/news_releases/2012/feb06.shtml)
- The deadline for Summer Residential Governor's Schools applications is February 24.

Responsibility from the Virginia Board of Education:

- VACEG 's Charge for 2011–2012 from the Virginia Board of Education is

- To identify various program models that meet the needs of gifted learners at the high school level and satisfy the requirements for best practices in the Regulations;
- To determine what programs, policies, or procedures are in place as support mechanisms for the high school program models;
- To determine the array of learner outcomes associated with each program model; and
- To determine the extent to which these models interact with VDOE initiatives, such as STEM education and career and college readiness.

Beverly reminded members that the goal for the day is for each subgroup to complete a draft of their group's work. If time allows, the whole group will consider each of the subgroup's reports. Members broke into subgroups to continue work on the charge. The committee hopes to have a document ready to review before the final meeting so that it can be submitted to the State Board of Education by September or October 2012. The areas to be completed include:

- Introduction
  - Beverly Catlin
  - Donna Poland
- Accelerated Content — IB, AP, honors, dual enrollment, Cambridge, early college admission
  - Carol K. Dickens
  - Amy Lamb
  - Diane Naff
  - Ellen Fithian
  - Reginald Johns
- Special Schools — Academic Year Governor's Schools, Summer Residential/Regional Governor's Schools, Magnet
  - Veronica Kouassi
  - Brian Pace
  - Betty Covington
  - Judi Greathouse
  - Tomica Crosby
  - Mary Jane Mutispaugh
- Beyond The Classroom — study abroad, summer enrichment, mentor, intern, independent
  - Carol Horn
  - Beth Andersen
  - Rebecca Akers
  - Margee Greenfield
- Differentiated Instruction — online, virtual, classroom differentiation, cluster/self/group models, acceleration
  - Chiraag Khemlani
  - Patti Davis
  - Joanne Funk

Subcommittee Reports — Every subcommittee completed a draft of its section by the end of the day and these were emailed to Donna Poland for compilation. Once compiled, Donna will email the document to every member so we can review it as a whole before the April meeting. Final revisions will be made at that time.

Member Reports:

Donna Poland, VDOE — There is a bill before the General Assembly that will change the language about appointment of local advisory committees by local school boards from “shall” to “may” appoint a local advisory committee. The Virginia Consortium meeting will be held in Charlottesville on October 5, with new coordinators meeting on October 4. The Academic Year Governor’s Schools will have a newsletter coming out to support Capital Day on March 5. Donna will give VACEG members a copy.

Beverly Catlin, Charlottesville — Budget issues have had a significant impact on Charlottesville.

Judi Greathouse, Frederick County — Regional Governor’s School and Academic Year Governor’s School applications are due soon.

Margee Greenfield, Summer Governor’s School — Summer Residential Governor’s Schools applications are arriving.

Carol Horn, Fairfax — VAG has a new website. It also will have a seminar in the fall and information is posted on VAG website. The organization is also looking for a new Executive Director.

Reggie Johns, Hampton — Hampton recently held a professional development day in which 8 divisions participated.

Carol Kennedy-Dickens, Suffolk — This is a year of change for Suffolk. An Odyssey of the Mind Conference will be held on February 25 in Portsmouth.

Veronica Kouassi, Appomattox Regional Governor’s School — In January they completed their adjudication for the 2012–13 school year. At least 375 students participated in the process over a two-day period. The school is currently getting ready for its VDOE review in April.

Mary Jane Mutispaugh, Alleghany County — Governor’s School applications are being submitted. Budget preparation is underway. Region VI gifted coordinators are sponsoring a professional development opportunity with Bruce Oliver on April 4 in Salem.

There were no public comments.

Beverly reminded members that the next meeting would be held on April 27, 2012. Each committee member should have completed a review of the compiled document so the group can discuss recommendations and changes to the document at that time.

On a motion by Margee Greenfield, seconded by Chiraag Khemlani the meeting adjourned at 2:45 pm.