

Alexandria City Public Schools
Talented and Gifted Advisory Committee
January 2019 Minutes

Meeting: January 28, 2019, @ William Ramsay School

TAGAC Members Present: Donna Brearley, Leigh Dugan, Mark Lacy, Nicholas Miller, Laura Rose, Julia Egy, D. Ohlandt, and Chris Suarez

Additional Guests Present: Dr. Gerald Mann, Executive Director of Secondary Education; Tiana Dominik, TAG Instructional Specialist; PreeAnn Johnson, Polk Elementary School Principal; Kathleen Schoen, Polk Parent; Joel Finkelstein, Polk Parent

Old Business:

Committee approved December Meeting Minutes. Sub-committee assignments were announced.

New Business:

Discussion about the 5th Grade Tag teacher leaving Polk in December and the interim plan for the year.

Donna Brearley provided an update on the Virginia Beach Trip administrators and principals took to learn about that district's delivery of gifted services:

Virginia Beach has a brand new gifted magnet school that serves grades 2-8, it contains a visual and performing arts component. In other schools, K-5 services are provided thru differentiation; these services are supported by a TAG certified teacher and TAG consultant. In middle school, TAG students are intentionally clustered in certain honors classes with a subset of designated teachers and supported by a TAG consultant. A Young Scholars program is in place for K-1 students. Principals conduct evaluations in differentiated classrooms. Noted Trend—General Education teachers have to want to teach in a differentiated classroom.

Donna also provided the following update on the Local Plan:

Dr. Hutching guidance is that the plan must be Equitable. A Draft Plan has not been completed and may be released in March or April. Donna hopes she can share the Issues Matrix which is tracking the status on the 32 recommendations from the Consultant's Study at the next meeting.

Donna announced these opportunities for committee members:

- *Understanding and Supporting Your Gifted Child* with consultant Dr. Richard Cash. March 4th 6:30-7:30pm in the multi-purpose room at Ferdinand T. Day Elementary School.
- Attend the NAGC (National Association of Gifted Children) Advocacy Conference March 17-19th.
- Serve as the Parent Representative from this region to the Virginia Association of the Gifted.

In February, the TAGAC will review Position Paper drafts for Elementary and Middle School.

Chair Report: Nick welcomed our new School Board representative, Chris Suarez to the committee and announced D. Ohlandt as our newest committee member.

Annual Report Summary: