

Alexandria City Public Schools
Talented and Gifted Advisory Committee
November 2017 Minutes

Meeting: November 13, 2017, @ George Mason Elementary School

TAGAC Members Present: Stacie Anderson, Donna Brearley, Hal Cardwell, Erica Berson, Cailin Dore, Leigh Dugan, Emily Garrahan, Marie Huddle, Ana Humphrey, Mark Lacy, Nicholas Miller, Gregg Murphy, and Laura Rose.

Old Business:

Approved October 2017 Minutes.

Additional request made for everyone to present a *curriculum vita* for inclusion in the Manual and submit sub-committee assignment preferences. Sub-committee options include: K-3, 4-5, Middle School, High School, Communication, and Ad-Hoc Assignments.

New Business:

The Committee discussed at length the reactions and feedback from parents at recent meetings held by ACPS to present the findings of the TAG Evaluation Report. This feedback will continue to inform the Committee's recommendations.

The Committee outlined a meeting schedule for the upcoming months:

- *December Meeting:* The committee will invite Dr. Crawford and Dr. Jackson to learn more about counseling and student services available for TAG students during the first half of the meeting. During the second half of the meeting, the Committee will finalize a few key priority areas to focus on for the coming year based on the findings from the TAG Evaluation Report.
- *January Meeting:* The Committee will invite principals from the middle schools and T.C. Williams High School, along with a subset of teachers to come together to discuss goals and priorities as they relate to Talented and Gifted education and curriculum.
- *February Meeting:* The committee will invite the principals from the elementary schools to have a similar discussion.
- *March Meeting:* The committee will invite Dr. Brown to share upcoming changes to curriculum standards in Science, ELA, and Social Studies in the Elementary Schools.

At the next meeting, each Committee member is asked to prepare three issues from the recent TAG Evaluation Report for discussion with the Elementary, Middle, and High School principals at future meetings.

Chair Report: With the evolving interest by the Committee in having more direct contact and input from those on staff who are most affected by and knowledgeable of the TAGAC issues confronting ACPS, the goals and objectives for the year will be more fluid to accomplish this.

Annual Report Summary:

As the Committee has better informed itself of the findings in the TAG Evaluation Report, consistent with what it learned from its own efforts in delving into the issues facing ACPS related to TAG curriculum and participation, it has refocused its goals for the year to have more direct interaction with those implementing the TAG objectives and who were therefore best prepared to discuss the success and failures confronting ACPS. Consequently, future meetings are to be scheduled to meet with School Counselors, Principals, TAG teachers and others who are better positioned to advise TAGAC as to the challenges faced in having effective TAG programs, participation and curriculum at all school levels. Additionally, TAGAC will seek to be better informed on upcoming changes to the TAG curriculum, especially in Science, ELA, and Social Studies in the Elementary Schools, along with Middle School's lack of TAG performance and effectiveness being a particular area of interest.