

Gifted Services Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes  
May 16, 2016; 6:30 pm

Attendees:

Cheryl McCullough, APS Supervisor, Gifted Services  
Beth Dowd, GSAC Co-Chair  
Dan Corcoran  
Karen Freeman  
Yun Kang  
Meredith Purple  
Ryoko Reed  
Cynthia Torg  
Nick Walkosak

Guest: Regina Van Horne, APS Planning and Evaluation

Ms. Dowd opened the meeting with introductions.

Ms. Van Horne reviewed draft parent and child surveys for the Gifted Services Program Evaluation process, allowed parents to take the survey and took comments. There was a discussion of the contents of the cover letter, and whether or not to link the surveys to student ID. The majority of the group preferred linking the surveys to student ID numbers.

Ms. Dowd led a discussion regarding the data on APS gifted identifications. That data is appended and hereby incorporated into the minutes. Ms. McCullough is still working on getting an update on data on cluster groupings.

Ms. Dowd led a discussion regarding GSAC's report for next year, which will be due early in the Fall. Topics to be included are:

1. A recommendation that Ms. McCullough receive a budget increase to allow for the hiring of a Program Assistant. Will need data from Ms. McCullough regarding her position description/duties and the anticipated position description/duties for the new position.
2. A recommendation that the Middle School Program of Studies be amended to include Intensified English, Social Studies and Science.
3. A recommendation that APS undertake some procedure(s) to address the inconsistency of implementation of the gifted program across schools. Particular areas of concern are discrepancies in identification rates and inconsistency in clustering gifted students. Possible additional points: require a report from Principals on implementation, request budget for training.
4. Update/discussion of additional issues related to gifted services: the program evaluation, Whole Child, ATSS, and 2E efforts.

At our first meeting in the Fall, we will assign report sections.

Ms. McCullough gave an update on Gifted Services activities:

1. The program evaluation process continues.
2. Governors School decisions have been made and announced.
3. Training was conducted in conjunction with the Social Studies Department in Document Based Questions, with follow up training offered.
4. Gifted Services is coordinating with Language Arts to offer training at William and Mary for selected teachers.

Ms. Dowd adjourned the meeting at 8:30 pm.