

**Goochland County Public Schools  
Gifted Advisory Committee (GAC)  
February 20, 2013  
Minutes**

The third quarter meeting of the Gifted Advisory Committee (GAC) was held in the training room of the Goochland County Public Schools Administration Building on February 20, 2013. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. Present were members Chair Jennifer Hefner, Sara Worley, Margaret McLemore, Jodie Pillow, Kristie Duncan, Robin Sundstrom and Carolyn McCann. Others present were Karron Myrick, Cynthia Stansberry, Dr. James Lane, Dr Stephen Geyer, Glenda Hawk, Sandra Crowder, James Hopkins and John Lumpkins.

**Approval of Minutes**

Margaret McLemore motioned to approve the minutes from the November 7<sup>th</sup> meeting. Jodie Pillow seconded the motion and the minutes from the November 7<sup>th</sup> meeting were approved.

**TRAC Book Presentation**

Dr. James Lane gave a presentation on new software that the Schools are implementing. He indicated that the software will allow teachers, administration & parents' access to all tests for a student or student population. He went on to explain that this new software will allow better tracking of student progress throughout the year and throughout the student's schooling. He explained the difference between achievement and growth and how the software will be better able to track the difference. He explained that the software can compare students within schools, within the County and across the nation. He also indicated that it could be a way to track teacher performance. He then gave a demonstration of the software. He stated that the process of uploading information has already begun and that administration and teachers will need to be trained before it can be released for public use.

There was discussion regarding whether the new system could help the Measurement Task Force in their analysis. Karron Myrick gave an update on what the task force has accomplished and indicated that the task force would like to see certain data points included in the software so that the research that is already completed can be loaded and become usable data. Dr. Lane asked for that information as soon as possible since the software is in production. He indicated that he should be able to give an update at the next GAC meeting.

**Gifted Programming Task Force Update**

Dr. Geyer gave an update on the Gifted Programming Task Force. He indicated that a small group has met on several occasions to discuss the gifted program. He stated that Sandra Crowder, RES principal is chairing the task force. Jennifer Hefner is the GAC representative and representatives from each school are on the task force. He stated that the purpose would be to clarify what the program is and what it isn't and to develop a road map for where we want the gifted program to go in the next year. He indicated that the task force should report on their findings in the spring.

Sandra Crowder indicated that the task force held their fourth meeting and that they started with perceptions and experiences and made a list of items that need addressing. She went on to say that the task force is now delving into the specifics of the issues and plan to report back in April.

Chair Hefner indicated that last year, the GAC set forth a framework of items to get accomplished and that those items are being addressed through the task force.

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Cynthia Stansberry recommended addressing the CTE program and performing arts. Mr. Lumpkins recommended adding foreign languages at the elementary school level and virtual learning to the list.

Jodie Pillow indicated that that she has heard from parents that they are concerned that their children are missing critical instruction time during their enrichment.

Karron Myrick stated that that the gifted curriculum needs to be compacted and it should be able to be tracked.

### **GAC Policy Update**

Dr. Geyer stated that the School Board updated the GAC policy as per State code. He indicated that the State code is not requiring that localities have a GAC but the School Board plans to continue with the GAC through local policy.

### **Informational One-pager**

Dr. Geyer indicated that he sees a need to create an informational one-pager on the Gifted Program. Ms. Crowder recommended creating a parent information manual. It was the consensus of the GAC that this was a good idea.

### **Parent Survey**

Dr. Geyer stated that he would like to get a survey out to the parents of the gifted children to obtain feedback on what parents think the Schools are doing right and what they are doing wrong. Chair Hefner indicated that a survey was done previously so the same questions need to be asked and possibly more. Dr. Geyer indicated that he would like to get the surveys out as soon as possible to have feedback by the April meeting. It was decided that the ERTs could send out the surveys to the elementary level.

### **Parent Education Events**

Dr. Geyer indicated that the College and University event planned for the spring has morphed and that it will now encompass more items. He stated that it is now planned for the fall of next year and that it is not a GAC responsibility.

### **Public Comment Period**

There were no comments from the Public.

### **Subcommittee and Task Force Updates**

Updates on the subcommittees and task forces were given.

### *STEM Advisory Committee*

Ms. Hawk gave an update on Conundrum Day that was held in February. She indicated that 120 children attended. She also gave an update on the STEM camp for the summer stating that it will be held the week of June 24<sup>th</sup> at GES.

### *Honors Committee*

It was stated that there will be a discussion in relation to the math SOLs as to not exclude capable

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children who may have scored poorly on the new math SOLs.

*Identification Committee*

There was no update from the Identification committee.

*Communication Task Force*

Jodie Pillow stated that the changes were being made to the website to differentiate between Gifted and Enrichment and that resources for parents are being added.

**Adjournment**

Being no further business before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

DRAFT