

## Alexandria City Public Schools

### Talented and Gifted Advisory Committee

#### October 7 2019 Minutes

**Meeting:** October 7, 2019, @ William Ramsey Elementary School

**Current and Incoming TAGAC Members Present:** Stacie Andersen, Donna Brearley, Lindsay Clarke, Emily Garrahan, Mark Lacy, D Ohlandt, Laura Rose, Kathleen Schoen, Kathleen Sheehy, Christopher Suarez, and Mary Beth Walker

**Additional Guests Present:** Dr. Gerald Mann, Executive Director of Secondary Instruction

#### Old Business:

Approved September Meeting Minutes as amended to include Stacie Andersen.

#### New Business:

Update from TAGAC Chair, Laura Rose:

- Laura plans to attend the state conference with the Virginia Association of the Gifted from October 17-19. The theme of the conference is *Linking the Strands of Gifted Education to Provide Equity for All*. Catherine lenzi from Maury Elementary School will be honored as this year's Outstanding Teacher of the Gifted for Region Five. All are welcome to attend the conference. There are 5 staff members from ACPS that will attend.
- Laura continues to try to recruit Young Scholars parents to join TAGAC. She will attend the monthly Principals meeting to introduce TAGAC and request recommendations for new committee members.
- Laura will meet with the head of the Special Education Advisory Committee to look for opportunity to work together, specifically with regard to twice exceptional children.
- TAGAC is hoping to do a panel with all four of the ACPS middle schools in November (George Washington, Hammond, Jefferson Houston, and Patrick Henry).

Update from D Ohlandt:

- D is working with the ACPS communications team to finalize a press release to recognize Catherine lenzi from Maury Elementary School being honored as this year's Outstanding Teacher of the Gifted for Region Five.
- D is also working to finalize a flyer that can be distributed to schools about this year's new referral deadline.

Update from Donna Brearley:

- Odyssey of the Mind has kicked off for this school year. Meetings were recently held at Polk and George Washington for coaches. ACPS had 19 teams last year.
- The Young Scholars program is expanding to Maury and Jefferson Houston. Next year, the program will be expanded to the last four ACPS schools- Charles Barrett, Samuel Tucker, Lyles Crouch, and George Mason.
- Dr. Cash is returning October 23-25 and will speak to the principals at their next Principals Meeting. He will visit middle schools on October 25<sup>th</sup>. Starting in November, his colleague will complete this year's consulting to coach teachers and look at the curriculum. Donna is hoping to put more work with Dr. Cash's team into the budget for next year.

Update from Dr. Mann:

- The School Board voted for one connected high school. There will be a new director of school counseling and we are hoping to make more college courses available for 9<sup>th</sup> grade students.

The Department of Accountability approved TAGAC's suggested changes to the accountability indicators. They will be available a few months later than usual due to the changes.

**Chair Report:**

**Annual Report Summary:**