

Comments by Julie Anne Watko, Nov 28, 2023

Lob It In The Trash, by Julie Anne Watko.

Elementary schools are scheduling a period called IET. IET stands for "Intervention OR Enrichment Time". Students who require interventions do not have access to enrichment. When you say "enrichment for all", you mean --enrichment for all healthy English-speaking students--. Students with disabilities don't get enrichment. English Learning students don't get enrichment. IET scheduling is discriminatory. Get rid of it.

ACPS uses a teacher rating scale called the HOPE scale. The HOPE scale generates two independent indicators of gifted behaviors: a Social subscale and an Academic subscale. The inventor of the HOPE scale warns users NOT to add these two univariate subscales together. Dr. Megan Tempel-Milner has trained AASTs to misuse the HOPE scale. AASTs trained by Dr. Megan Tempel-Milner are adding the two univariate subscales together. When misused in this way, the HOPE scale is underidentifying students who demonstrate gifted behaviors in one subscale but not the other. If you refuse to train AASTs to correctly use the HOPE scale, get rid of it.

AASAC's scope of work does NOT direct you to encourage critical thinking about the local plan. AASAC's scope of work directs you to wander about the city limits telling people what is credible. Telling people what to believe is the opposite of critical thinking. What you are telling people is credible is a local plan centered upon the premise that all children in the City of Alexandria are equally prepared to engage in acts of critical thinking. YET you seem to believe that once those children turn 18 years old, earn a diploma, crank out babies and raise them to the age of 5 and join the ACPS community as parents, they suddenly, mystically, lose the ability to think critically, so much so that you feel the need to wander about the city telling those parents what to believe. AASAC's scope of work + the local plan = blatant hypocrisy. Get rid of it.