

Alexandria City Public Schools

Talented and Gifted Advisory Committee

January 11, 2021 Minutes

Meeting: January 11, 2021, @ Zoom Webinar

Current TAGAC Members Present: Zion Bezu, Daphney Denerville-Davis, Tiana Dominick, Leigh Dugan, Reese du Pont, Emily Garrahan, Mark Lacy, D Ohlandt, Laura Rose, Kathleen Sheehy, Nicholas Miller, Lindsay Clarke, Julia Egy, Asha Mede, Asmerom Yakob, Chris Suarez, (attending) Rene Paschal

Old Business:

The committee approved the December 14th Meeting Minutes.

New Business:

Young Scholars (YS) Update from Tiana Dominick

- As of this school year, the Young Scholars program has been implemented in all ACPS Elementary Schools.
- Young Scholars service delivery is slightly different at each elementary school at the discretion of the principal; some schools have the homeroom teacher providing the differentiated lessons to YS and GIA students alike, while other schools have a TAG teacher working 1-2 times a week (at most) with each of the groups.
- There is a GIA/YS curriculum that most teachers are aware of on Canvas, and many are using the lessons in their differentiation.
- Ms. Dominick is beginning GIA/YS Teacher Meetings where she will offer Professional Development opportunities focusing on one aspect of the curriculum resources per session.
- There is still hope that a YS summer experience may still be possible this year (Covid dependent)
- Currently there is no required form of documentation of the differentiation that YS students receive. Ms. Dominick is looking into using the Differentiated Education Plan (DEP) documentation for YS students as well.

Budget Update from Chris Suarez:

- The School Board is just getting ready to start the budget process and the first work session is later this week.
- As of now, though counseling in general is a high priority for ACPS, there is no plan for a TAG/GIA/YS-specific counselor position in the budget.

Committee Discussion:

- The Scope of Work for the committee was approved by the School Board. Laura Rose asked committee members to consider which goal from the Scope of Work they might like to work on in a subcommittee. The 3 areas are:

- Virtual Learning Impacts (with counseling as a portion of this)
- Equity Issues (summarizing guest speaker recommendations, possibly making recommendations for changes to tests)
- K-12 Roadmap (what to expect in each of the paths of YS/GIA/SS-identification as students move from elementary through middle and high school)
- Reese DuPont suggested including student voices in the annual report out to the School Board, possibly in each area of the subcommittees' work.

Next Meeting is February 8, 2021