

Alexandria City Public Schools
Talented and Gifted Advisory Committee
August 29, 2022 Minutes

Meeting: August 29, 2022 @ Cora Kelly School for Math, Science, and Technology – Media Center

Current TAGAC Members Present: D. Ohlandt (Chair), Michael Dukes, Laura Rose, Megan Tempel-Milner, Liza Burrell-Aldana, Irene Arevalo, *guests:* Robin Sundaramoorthy, Katie Baker, Carmen Sanders, Wendy Gonzalez, Pierette Finley

Old Business:

- Quorum was not met, so official business could not be conducted. Approval of June 1, 2022 meeting minutes tabled.

New Business:

Chair's Remarks

- Introductions of all attendees and guests were made.
- Currently too few TAGAC members at all to conduct business, so we need to recruit new members.
- TAGAC still needs a vice-chair and secretary. Robin Sundaramoorthy agreed to take minutes from today's meeting.
- Discussion of meeting in person vs. meeting over Zoom.
 - Advantages of Zoom: more accessible, less travel required
 - Disadvantages of Zoom: less engagement in discussion, difficult for subcommittees to work
 - Advantages of in-person: better engagement when we see each other face to face
 - Disadvantages of in-person: difficult for parents and people who live outside of ACPS
 - Will meet in person for September 17 meeting, then revisit discussion in November.
- Discussion of recruiting new members.
 - Ask principals to recommend
 - PTAC ask
 - Seek out a Young Scholars parent rep

Staff Remarks

- Talent and Gifted Overview and Updates (presentation and slideshow by Dr. Tempel-Milner)

Proposal for 2022-23 Scope of Work

1. What should be done with Middle School Honors?
2. K-12 differentiation and how can we empower and support teachers in their efforts to implement DEPs
3. Local Plan Advocacy

Discussion of Scope of Work

- What is the purpose of the TAGAC?
- Chair D. Ohlandt compiled a summary of TAGAC work from 2017-2022.
- What happens to the recommendations that TAGAC makes? School board sets policy and approves budget; all other decisions made by administration, starting with Director of AAS (Megan Tempel-Milner) and going up through to superintendent.
- It's fantastic to see our recommendations (and more) being implemented and taking effect, but it takes time for changes to be made and have an impact.
- Advocacy for funding and approving the new local plan. One thing TAGAC can do is provide the school board pretty high-level endorsements of what's happening in the AAS office.
 - Take this compilation and show what AAS has done over the last five years.
 - Show how budget asks for local plan are spread across years.
 - Identify a few key things that have been recommended by TAGAC over the last five years and track how these things have improved. Show how more funding can continue improvement.
 - Connect what AAS is doing to ACPS overall charge to improve Tier 1 instruction.
- Local plan advocacy needs to be part of TAGAC's Scope of Work 2022-23
- Limit Scope of Work to a few targeted items, while continuing to push for accountability of last five years of recommendations.

Action Items

- Laura will look at summary of TAGAC 2017-2022 report and synthesize it. Michael will help organize the data after Laura completes the initial report.
- D. will draft 2022-23 Scope of Work
- Megan Tempel-Milner will invited MS tag teachers to attend the September meeting

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 pm.