

Alexandria City Public Schools
Talented and Gifted Advisory Committee

Meeting Agenda

April Minutes

Meeting: April 18, 2016

TAGAC Members Present: Scott Oswald, Steve Lally, Steve Gordon, Donna Brearley, Stacy Hayden, Amanda Eisenhour, Alex Griffin, Nicholas Miller, Ashley Chappell, Zion Bezu, Christopher Lewis, Gregg Murphy

Guests: Terri Mozingo, Clinton Page, Jennifer Whitson , JC Herz

Old Business:

March minutes approved

New Business:

TAGAC Elections

Since it is the Spring, it is almost time for TAGAC elections. Although Mrs. Griffin will most likely be running again next year, other applicants should apply! If you are interested please feel free to send an email to her to let her know. Elections will be held at the next meeting. We will primarily be voting for Chair and Secretary.

Chair Update:

Mrs. Griffin shared that she has been meeting with many different people to ensure that we have a successful session with ACPS officials on TAG evaluation inputs. She also wanted to review the purpose of the evaluation.

TAGAC discussed that at this meeting, our goal is to help ACPS ensure that everything that needs to be covered in the evaluation so that we can ensure that it is all ready for when the RFP goes out. They have been able to collaborate to build on the Local Plan and add on things that have been in our previous annual reports.

ACPS Updates:

External Program Evaluation Discussion

Dr. Mozingo discussed that so often, programs aren't evaluated. By doing a full TAG evaluation, we can get recommendations on how to make our program even better. They addressed how

the TAG program evaluation will contribute to students' achievement as well as what features of the Local Plan are most important to include in the evaluation.

Mrs. Brearley started by going over the purpose of the evaluation and history of the Local Plan. The Virginia Statute calls for each school division to provide gifted education services and provides a set of regulations to follow while designing a plan. Although they mandate that it happens, they do not give specifics as to what has to happen.

The current Local Plan for the Education of the Gifted was developed in SY 2011 by a process with extensive stakeholder input. Additionally, the TAGAC reviewed and edited each draft of the plan throughout the spring of 2012. Implementation began in August 2012.

In the plan, it calls for a full program evaluation to be conducted by an outside agency or organization familiar with gifted education in year 4 of the 5 year plan. Because of this, in the budget request this year, they requested \$100,000 for the evaluation. This is proposed, but has not been accepted yet. This will serve to inform the next revision of the plan scheduled for 2017-2018.

Mr. Page reminded TAGAC that from a product management lens, time and cost are fixed. However, the scope is still very fluid. TAGAC participated in prioritization exercise since this is all still fluid. When ACPS submits a RFP, if no one is able to accommodate our 100,000 dollar budget, some items would need to be cut. Hopefully this will not happen, however we have to be prepared in case it does.

TAGAC discussed the potential data sources for all of the different areas and reminded everyone that in all situations teachers and students will be consulted. When reviewing the *4/8/16 Draft Summary Overview of TAG Evaluation Scope*, The Office of Accountability reminded us that they did not articulate what specific groups of stakeholders each potential data source would come from.

TAGAC discussed adding some additional pieces to the draft summary including high school services and TAG students leaving ACPS for middle school. ACPS officials responded that these will fall into the buckets that are being analyzed, however the buckets are larger vague questions. This is partially because once the RFP is out, ACPS looks to the companies to explain their methodology and their thoughts.

TAGAC also discussed concerns over previous surveys that don't lend themselves to people with multiple students. ACPS officials responded that they would definitely take all of that into account, however they also are very interested in seeing what the other potential data sources (besides surveys) reveal. TAGAC mentioned that if possible, they would like specific stakeholders mentioned with different potential data sources mentioned in the RFP.

TAGAC also mentioned looking at the way that we have changed the identification years from the NNAT and CoGat and how this changed identification.

Prioritization Activity

Buckets (in order of priority)

1. Delivery of Services :1.9
2. Screening, Referrals & Identification Process: 2.1
3. Student Outcomes: 2.6
4. Professional Development: 3.4

Areas of Service (in order of priority)

1. Young Scholars and Middle School
2. SSA (tied SS/Science and ELA/Math)

RFP will be going out in early June and they stay out for about a month. ACPS then goes through the process to review the proposals. Hopefully in August/ September they will have an offer accepted. This way they will be able to develop tools in the early fall. They should then be able to start data collection after that happens.

Wrap-Up:

Memorandum & Scope of Work

We will be doing quite a bit of this through email. Volunteers offering to write different sections would be very helpful! Mrs. Griffin will send out her draft. We will also need to discuss and determine our scope of work.

Future Meetings

-May 16th