

Meeting Minutes

In attendance: Jessica Huntoon, Tom Ambler, Diane Wishart, Nate Kinneson, Baseemah Cumberbatch-Smith, Tanya Bhasin, Karla Stead, Patricia Costis, Katie Humphrey-Morgan, Kim Walsh, Chris Michaels, Dr. Karen Nelson, Billy B. Davis

Mrs. Huntoon called the meeting to order at 6:09 pm

Review of Meeting Norms: focus on beginning and ending on time, and staying on topic

Review of November meeting minutes: Mr. Ambler noted that approval of meeting minutes should be noted in all minutes. Mrs. Cumberbatch-Smith corrected recorded names. The minutes were approved as amended.

Senior Coordinator's Report

- The Office of Academic Rigor (OAR) sent four gifted resource teachers to the National Association for Gifted Children (NAGC) national conference in Minneapolis, MN in November. Dr. Costis presented a session on twice exceptional students.
- 69 NPS students participated in the Noetic Math competition. Six of these students received Honorable Mention. The students represented three NPS elementary schools.
- The gifted education audit is moving forward. The College of William and Mary is currently conducting a needs assessment. In January, they will reach out to various stakeholders.
- Kim Walsh spoke, giving information about a workshop for all parents of students in grades 6-12, to be held on Dec. 6, 2018 at 6:00 pm at Granby High School. Mrs. Walsh stated that representatives from NPS high school specialty programs would be present including LCSC, IB, NORSTAR, GEAC, and William and Mary would be present to answer questions and talk about their programs.
- Mrs. Stead noted that OAR will also host a parent workshop for parents of elementary school gifted students this year, date to be determined.
- Mrs. Stead stated she spoke with approximately 25 principals at CAB regarding gifted services, and the new monthly report format, and received positive feedback.

New Business

- Mrs. Huntoon introduced GEAC to Google Classroom and its contents. She uploaded 5 Google Docs. Each contained a different topic, narrowed from our work in October and November, brainstorming, assessing, and narrowing areas GEAC should address.
 - Each Google Doc contained a series of guiding questions to drive us as a group toward crafting a large, overarching goal statement, and further defining the areas we would like to address.
- Mrs. Cumberbatch-Smith asked whether we should craft a rationale statement for each of the 5 items. Mrs. Huntoon said she would add the following items to each Google Doc: 1) reason; 2) current status; 3) positives and negatives; and 4) recommendations.

- A question was raised about the annual/semi-annual (?) GEAC letter to the School Board. Questions posed included: 1) Do we need a letter? 2) Is this the best use of our time? 3) Will it be read and acted upon?
 - Mrs. Bhasin stated that the letters have been helpful to the School Board. In the past, the School Board has approved many GEAC recommendations such as the Young Scholars re-boot, and the use of gifted teacher as teacher of record.

GEAC Work Session

- Members split into small groups to review, analyze, and add to each of the 5 Google Docs. Attempts were made to access the Google Docs in Google Classroom, but all were unsuccessful. The task was shelved until the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm.