

NPS Gifted Education Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

May 8, 2018.

Media Center at the Academy of International Studies at Rosemont, Norfolk, Virginia

Attendees:

Jessica Huntoon, Chair, Staff

Louie Jordan, Vice-Chair, Parent

Thomas Ambler, Recording Secretary, Community Member

Baseemah Cumberbatch-Smith, Parent

Nate Kinnison, Parent

Vicky Greco, Nominations Chair

Tanya Lewis, Parent

Diane Wishart, Parent

Guests:

Tanya Bhasin, NPS Board Member

Patty Costis, Staff

Andrea Disney, Staff

The meeting was called to order at 6:04 PM by Jessica Huntoon, Chair. A quorum was noted. Ms. Huntoon observed that all present had attended meetings in the past. Ms. Huntoon also said that at this meeting, Andrea Disney would provide an update on Gifted Education because the new Senior Coordinator for Academic Rigor had not yet been announced. Ms. Huntoon asked for a review of the March 2018 minutes. There was then a motion by Louie Jordan to approve those minutes as drafted. There was a second and the motion passed.

REPORT BY MS. DISNEY

Ms. Disney reported that all first graders were given the identification test. 788 were recommended for consideration and 435 were identified as gifted. She also reported that 52 persons were invited to become a Young Scholar and 45 accepted that invitation. She also reported that about 2467 Advance Placement tests were being given this year. Ms. Disney also reported that a three-year NIMSA grant was received to enhance AP efforts at Booker T. Washington and Lake Taylor High Schools. Some of the grant money is used to reward test-takers and teachers. Ms. Disney said that 21 NPS students had been invited to the various Virginia Governor residential summer schools, representing all five Norfolk high schools.

Ms. Disney then reported that due to glitch in the survey proposed to be given on gifted, it had been misdirected and therefore there would be no results that would come to GEAC. This news met with great consternation and dismay, not just that about the facts but over how this had been not communicated to GEAC.

As a result, there was a long and more general discussion about gifted education in Norfolk, GEAC's place in that effort and the desire by GEAC to have some sort of meeting with the NPS school board. As part of that discussion, the sense of GEAC was that it would help to have Dr. Cataldo at the next GEAC meeting in June.

Ms. Disney reported that the efforts to select a new Senior Coordinator were well underway, but it was not clear as to the timing of the selection.

Ms. Huntoon reported to the membership that all should consider if they wish to be listed on a slate of officers for election in June, with the persons selected to be officers for the period July 2017 to June 2019.

Tanya Lewis move that the meeting be adjourned at 7:29. There was a second and the motion passed.