

King George County Schools

Gifted Advisory Committee

Wednesday, Sept. 20, 2023, 4:15-5:15 pm SBO upstairs conference room

1. Welcome and Introductions

A. Attendees: Amanda Archer, Sarah Webster, Donna Watermolen, Lisa Lewis, Cathy Hoover, Melissa Mooney, Mary Murgas, Robin Mitchell, Amanda Miller , Kelly Barnes , Dustin Pifer

B. Nomination of GAC Chair and Secretary

1. GAC Chair: Dustin Pifer

2. GAC Secretary: Robin Mitchell

2. Program Updates

a. Local Plan for the Education of Gifted 2023-2028 - Mr. Pifer reported that the local plan was reviewed last year.

b. Debrief on summer programs (39 students attend KGES) Conflict with FRGS for 7th - Mr. Pifer provided a presentation about the summer program's participation, attendance, course offerings, course content, STEM/Coding, LEGO challenges, playwriting and performing arts, fantasy/creative writing, survival scenarios, breakout activities, baseball activity and chess. The committee discussed including 2nd graders in the program, however, turnaround time to invite them after eligibility impacts this possibility. Consideration given to informing parents when the initial testing is done to make them aware that the opportunity may be available.

c. Overview of programming from K-12. (Continue 2nd grade push in? Add 1st grade in spring?) Grade 2 began receiving lessons on critical thinking skills last year. Discussion occurred about the possibility of adding 1st grade lessons, but staff time will impact that. Parent volunteers were suggested.

d. Determine what needs to be provided in the form of gifted services to our students

K-12. The committee discussed communication for families about the gifted program to enable them to be knowledgeable. A concern about transportation information for students attending the program was discussed as well as hosting a "fun" scheduled event for students.

3. Establish GAC Annual Goals

a. Social emotional needs - Using games to learn about and teach social emotional skills was discussed. An outlet incorporated into the program was suggested.

b. Plan for summer enrichment - Mrs. Murgas suggested we consider a one day program for rising 3rd graders.

c. Web presence or communication update - Communication to parents of K-1 students about the program and a resource guide for parents of gifted students was discussed.

d. Book study - Books were available in the KGES library for families of gifted students, but data regarding the use of these resources is not available.

4. Programming Details and/or upcoming events

a. The Gifted Advisory Committee is a King George County School Board advisory committee and is open to the public.

5. Future GAC Meetings: 4:15PM, School Board Office, Second Floor Conference Room

Dec. 6, 2023

March 20, 2024

The meeting was adjourned at 5:18 p.m.