



Local Advisory Committee (LAC) Meeting
Spratley Gifted Center
April 12, 2012
6:30 pm – 8:30 pm

Minutes

- I. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by Michelle Bowers.
- II. Ruth Grillo shared HCS budget information that was presented earlier today by Dr. Shifflette. Michelle will email members of the LAC to encourage them to contact their city council members to support the school budget.
- III. Legislation which could impact school divisions' Local Advisory Committees has been passed, but VDOE is taking the issue to the Attorney General for interpretation. The question is whether LACs are optional, or whether it is optional to have them appointed by the local school boards. If LACs are optional, then the annual report to the board could be optional. Clarification will be forthcoming in May.
- IV. A summary of the survey results was presented. Almost 900 surveys were returned this year, including surveys from the identified gifted students as well as their parents. The survey information is included in the annual report. Parent involvement remains a concern. Suggestions from committee members for increasing opportunities for parent involvement include:
 - a. Requesting that each school have a link on their website to the DAAE site.
 - b. Providing information to PTA presidents to distribute at meetings.
 - c. Making the referral process easier to navigate.
 - d. Creating bookmarks for students to take home in the fall that have web links and contact information listed.Ruth also indicated that there will be a general information session held in the fall, and that gifted resource teachers will have a parent conference day (logistics to be determined).
- V. The draft for the annual report to the School Board was presented, with committee members making suggestions for clarification. The committee also recommended that professional development on gifted education be provided for administrators.
- VI. The meeting was adjourned at 8:00.

Members present:

Michelle Bowers
Cliff Shaffer
Genia Jones
Steven Russell
George Gaten
Erik Stone
Ruth Grillo