Local Advisory Committee (LAC) Meeting
Spratley Gifted Center
September 23, 2012
7:30 pm – 8:30 pm

Minutes

I. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm.
II. The Gifted Resource and Excel Art Open House was held from 6:30-7:30. Ruth Grillo presented an overview of the gifted resource and Excel Art programs, and introduced the new teachers.

III. The LAC has been considering two program extensions, a theater arts program for middle school and a gifted preschool program. Ruth Grillo discussed the budget implications of trying to get those programs started, with the understanding that there would probably not be start-up funding for the upcoming year. The committee discussed other possibilities, and would like to consider a Summer Regional Governor’s School-type program for gifted middle school students. Hampton City Schools students do not currently have access to any of the state Summer Regional Governor’s Schools. The committee proposed that the topics studied would rotate each summer, so students could attend more than one year. Possible topics could involve collaboration with local organizations (NASA, Jefferson Lab, etc.)

IV. The committee suggested working with the College of William and Mary or another teacher preparation program to see if graduate interns could assist in the new program staffing. The committee also suggested the possibility of having junior counselors, perhaps IB students who are interested in becoming teachers. Dr. Bondzi will check with Hampton University to see if there is any interest in developing a partnership to support this program. Ruth Grillo will start looking at budget implications and possibilities. Mr. Russell, Ms. Sowden, and Ms. West also volunteered to help with initial planning for this project.

V. Mr. Shaffer asked about the possibility of extending the Spratley program to include grades 9 and 10. Factors to be considered would include providing high school sports and providing a wide variety of high school level electives. Suggestions by the committee included working with Kecoughtan for electives and bussing groups of students for sports.

VI. The meeting was adjourned at 8:10. The next meeting will be on January 17.

Members and guests present:

Cliff Shaffer
Steven Russell
George Gaten
Erik Stone
Michelle Burwell
Arnice Johnson
Lia Todd
Dasia Todd
Cornelius Bondzi
Rhonda Diamond
Reginald Johns

Stephanie Johnson
Mary Wallen
Debbie Butler
Lucy Overton
Jada Overton
Karla Vargas-Ochs
Debbie West
Kelly Sowden
Ginger Petsos
Tonya Shields
Ruth Grillo