Local Advisory Committee (LAC) Meeting
Spratley Gifted Center
September 22, 2011
6:30 pm – 7:30 pm

Minutes

I. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by Michelle Bowers.
II. The committee elected to have Michelle continue as chairperson for this year; Cliff Shaffer will serve as Vice Chair, and Ruth Grillo will serve as secretary.
III. A draft of the bylaws was reviewed, to ensure compliance with the new VA regulations for gifted education. The bylaws will be revised to reflect that new members for 2012 will need to be approved by the School Board. There will be a vote on the revisions to the bylaws at the next meeting of the LAC.
IV. The current working draft of the new Local Plan was reviewed. No significant changes were suggested.
V. Members of the committee offered suggestions for a possible new performing arts component to the gifted programs. Questions raised included:
   a. Should we just do a pilot next year, using an elective block at Spratley? If it is an elective, can we offer high school credit?
   b. Should the program be mixed grade levels, 6-8? This would be a good fit between the arts program at Armstrong and the arts academy at Kecoughtan.
   c. If we ran the program at Spratley, could we use the same buses as Excel Art?
   d. Would the adjudications need to be once a year or more often? Should they be in the spring for the following year? What criteria should be adjudications include?
   e. How would the adjudications be conducted? Could we have students submit you-tube videos? Should we send an adjudication team to each middle school to view student auditions? Could the students use green-screen technology at each school, monitored by someone from the music department?
   f. What would the criteria for identification include, in addition to adjudicated performance pieces? (parent or teacher rating scales? awards or evidence of previous performances?) Pamela Young is gathering research on what other programs use for identification criteria, and what kinds of rubrics are used for adjudications.
   g. How can we make this equitable for all interested students to have a chance to be considered?
   h. How could we monitor the number of students identified as gifted for this program?
   i. The LAC committee suggested names of people who might be helpful to have on the committee planning the pilot for this program. Other suggestions will be considered.
VI. Three parents who were present at the meeting submitted nominations for membership on the LAC.
VII. The meeting was adjourned at 7:40.

Members present:
Michelle Bowers        Debbie Butler
Cliff Shaffer          Pamela Young
Eric Stone             Genia Jones
Cornelius Bondzi       George Gaten
Ken Crum               Cynthia Davis
Reginald Johns         Tonya Shields
Rhonda Diamond         Ruth Grillo