



Local Advisory Committee (LAC) Meeting
Spratley Gifted Center
October 27, 2011
6:30 pm – 7:30 pm

Minutes

- I. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by Michelle Bowers.
- II. The minutes from the September meeting were approved.
- III. The amended bylaws were approved.
- IV. The draft for the new Local Plan was discussed. In order to meet the state regulations for identifying children as gifted as early as kindergarten, the committee approved the proposal to keep the Talent Pool model, but students who score at the 95th percentile or above on the Talent Pool ability test will receive a comprehensive evaluation with additional ability testing to determine if they meet the criteria for gifted identification. The committee discussed the middle school services, and suggested that we consider providing supplemental curricular materials for middle school core content teachers to assist them in differentiating instruction for gifted middle school students in zoned placements.
- V. A public hearing to discuss the new Local Plan was scheduled for January 12. In addition, drafts of the new plan will be posted on the Spratley and HCS websites, with forms to allow online comments. A notice will be posted on channel 46. The gifted school level advisors will be given flyers to post at the schools.
- VI. Ms. Grillo has received a list of school divisions in Virginia that have gifted performing arts programs. She will delegate someone to research the Local Plans for those divisions to determine how the administrative pieces of those programs are described, and will provide the information to the performing arts committee. It is expected that our plans for the program, if approved, would be submitted as an addendum to the Local Plan next year.
- VII. The committee discussed the evaluation surveys that are used each year to gather data for the annual report, and suggested that surveys be given (or made available online) to the gifted students in grades 2-5 as a pilot this year.
- VIII. The committee discussed the gifted walkthrough forms, and suggested that the word “evaluator” be changed to “observer.” A “How can we help?” section will be added. It will not be linked to merit pay.
- IX. Ms. Grillo gave updates on gifted resource staffing and on the regional gifted professional development program that will be held at Spratley in January.
- X. Michelle Bowers will attend a session for LAC chairpersons in Virginia Beach on November 14, sponsored by the Virginia Beach Local Advisory Committee for Gifted Education.
- XI. The meeting was adjourned at 7:30.

Members present:

Michelle Bowers
Cliff Shaffer
Eric Stone
George Gaten
Debbie Butler
Genia Jones
Ruth Grillo