

Virginia Beach City Public Schools Community Advisory Committee for Gifted Education

The regular meeting of the Community Advisory Committee for Gifted Education (CAC) was held on **January 9, 2023** at 6:30 p.m., at **Pembroke Meadows Elementary School** and via Zoom.

Attendance:

Voting Members Present:

Jennifer McKendree - *Chairperson*, Rachel Copeland, Olga Eskinazi, Whitney Harding, Brittany Horn, Allison Krug, Kristina Laber, Justin Nichols, Tonya Rivers, Frances Thompson, Rachel Wynegar

Voting Members Absent:

Kerwin Kolheffer – *Co-chairperson*, Morgan Morrison

Non-Voting Members/Ex-Officio Members Present:

Dr. Nicole DeVries - *Director of K-12 and Gifted Programs*, **Dr. Dornswalo Wilkins-McCorey** - *Coordinator, Office of Gifted Programs*, **Angela Boubouheropoulos** - *Coordinator, Office of Gifted Programs*, **Meghann Scott** - *Instructional Specialist, Office of Gifted Programs*, **Leslie Wildman** - *Ex-Officio, Elementary Gifted Resource Teacher*, **Anne Marzitello** - *Ex-Officio, High School Gifted Resource Teacher*, **Cat Gadzinski** - *Ex-Officio, Arts*, **Melody Cariello** – *Ex-Officio, School Counseling*,

Non-Voting Members/Ex-Officio Members Absent:

Laura Purvis - *Ex-Officio Middle School Gifted Resource Teacher*, **Ava Ibanez** - *Student Representative (Landstown HS)*

Guests:

Jennifer Franklin - *VBCPS School Board*

Quorum Present: YES

Meeting Minutes

1. Welcome – Meeting was called to order by Director, Office of K-12 and Gifted Programs, Dr. Nicole DeVries. *Dr. Nicole DeVries* welcomed visitors and members. Visitors were introduced.
2. Special Order/Topics
 - a. Gifted Testing Update – Michelle McArdle, Gifted Testing Specialist
 - i. First grade screening expanded in 2022-23 and all first graders were screened with the CoGAT and NNAT3 tests. Students with a 90% or above on any of the sub-tests or tests will automatically have an application started for them.
 - ii. All identified first graders will be moved on for consideration at ODS.
 - iii. Parents can opt out of testing or ODS.
 - iv. Approximately 5,000 first grade students were tested, which required the involvement of many people
 - b. Distance Learning Overview – Trey Mailhes, Coordinator – Distance Learning
 - i. Three options for use of distance learning – recovery (additional courses needed to pass or graduate), pathway for students who have a packed schedule, or acceleration

- ii. Virtual courses are taught by VBCPS teachers and are asynchronous with flexible day/times, due dates, and include optional virtual office hours. Courses offered are based on requested numbers
 - iii. During the year, students register through their school counselor and can request up to two courses. Seniors are given preference. There is no charge for families.
 - iv. Summer school – Parents request through the website. Some courses fill and have a waitlist. Classes are offered based on enrollment and staffing availability. August grads are given priority
 - v. Teachers complete a 7-week training to teach virtually.
 - vi. Distance learning labs in MS/HS – TAs support the labs. A teacher teaches at one school, and it is sent to students at other schools. This year they have expanded courses to include a few science options. Transportation is provided to DL science classes for lab days.
3. VBCPS CAC Regular Meeting Business - Jennifer McKendree
- a. Business Meeting - Call to Order
 - b. Approval of **November** minutes - Justin Nichols motioned, Rachel Copeland seconded
 - c. Site visits report shared
 - a. Rachel Copeland – Tallwood ES
 - b. Tonya Rivers – Newtown ES
 - c. Justin Nichols – Diamond Springs ES
4. Adjournment: **8:05 p.m.** - Justin Nichols motioned, Rachel Wynegar seconded

Respectfully Submitted,

Meghann Scott

Instructional Specialist, Office of Gifted Programs
Department of Teaching & Learning