

Gifted Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
 FCPS Administration Building – Wright Board Room

May 8, 2023

Call to order: The quarterly meeting of the Frederick County Public Schools Gifted Advisory Committee was held on May 8, 2023 in the Wright Board Room in the FCPS Administration Building. The meeting was convened at 7:00 p.m. by J. Greathouse, Supervisor of Tiered Systems of Supports (GT & EL).

Members in attendance:

School	Representative
Admiral Richard E. Byrd Middle School	Absent
Apple Pie Ridge Elementary School	K. Sheikh
Armel Elementary School	S. Gregg
Bass Hoover Elementary School	Absent
Evendale Elementary School	Absent
Frederick County Middle School	Absent
Gainesboro Elementary School	Absent
Greenwood Mill Elementary School	Absent
Indian Hollow Elementary School	K. Frost
James Wood High School	Absent
James Wood Middle School	T. Markwood
Jordan Springs Elementary School	Absent
Middletown Elementary School	Absent
Millbrook High School	T. Knight
Orchard View Elementary School	Absent
Redbud Run Elementary School	R. Axmacher
Rober E. Aylor Middle School	B. Benson
Sherando High School	S. Sommerfield
Stonewall Elementary School	Absent
Gifted Resource Teacher Representative	A. Mohr
Gifted Visual Teacher Representative	L. Wade
School Counseling Representative	K. Wilbourne
Supervisor of Gifted Services and Libraries	J. Greathouse
Director of Middle and Secondary Instructional Services	J. Myers

Welcome and Introduction: 7:00 pm – J. Greathouse

Purpose of the Gifted Advisory Committee:

Located at the bottom of the agenda.

7:01

Approval of Agenda: B. Benson

- A motion was made by A. Mohr and seconded by K. Wilbourne

Approval of Minutes: B. Benson

- Motion to approve minutes was made by S. Gregg and seconded by T. Knight

Chair's Report

- No Report

Special Guest – Dr. Greathouse introduced Superintendent, Dr. Hummer. He shared about the important role of advisory committees to the School Board and shared his goal to expand these in the future.

Reports from Members/Representatives Groups:

Gifted Academic - Ms. Mohr

Elementary

- The elementary students will be focusing on the concept of Value next year.
- Concern expressed about GRT being understaffed – current situation has 1 GRT for three elementary school, 1 GRT for all three high schools, and 1 GRT per 2 middle schools

Middle

- PRISMS student showcase hosted at Aylor Middle School on May 24, 2023.

High School

- High school GIS showcases coming up, by invitation only. The high school GIS instructor has worked on increasing student participation in this program and this has been successful as participation has increased.

Gifted Visual Arts - Ms. Wade

- Final Evaluations are taking place, final reports are being sent in to Dr. Greathouse.
- School Board Art Show this week – May 10, 2023

Governor's Schools - Dr. Greathouse

- BREGS
 - 15 students accepted to attend
 - 4 interns accepted
- PAVAN
 - Decision letters have been sent out
 - FCPS has quite a few in theater, visual arts, and vocal – a few in guitar
- Summer Residential Governor's School (SRsGS)
 - Status information sent out today – 5 students accepted - 3 in Math/Science/Technology, 1 in Visual Arts, 1 in Vocal Music
- MVGS
 - 17 seats filled following 32 applicants – will create a wait list process – accepted students have been notified

Counselors - Ms. Wilbourne

- SOL Season
- STAMP testing just completed
- Math placement guidelines revised (parents can contact counselors to learn the specifics)

Administrator - Dr. Myers

- Event Season – Art Showcase this week; SHS art students created Apple Blossom coloring book which has sold well
- Course requests are in the system
- School system will be transitioning away from Tyler and to Infinite Campus, staff are in the process of being trained
- Senior Walk at the Elementary schools is May 25th
- Statewide history standards were revised in April 2023 – they are reviewed every 7 years- the state has a team of 1000 personnel who work on this project – she encourages all to review on the VDOE site – most likely will be implemented 2025 – FCPS currently in the process of reviewing curriculum to see where it aligns with revised standards – efforts being made to make curriculum appropriate for each age range – state is going into review process for assessments
- Dr Myers offers for Dr. Hummer to address the committee

Dr. Hummer

Provided budget update – 6.8 % increase for teachers, 5% all other employees, \$15 minimum for all staff – added some additional positions ESL, Mental Health supports, social work – added 4 counselors and 3 social workers – FY 25, put together local staffing standards, working on expanding gifted staff (notices this as an area of improvement)

Dr Myer - Standards of Quality call for 1 staff per 1000 for Gifted Education, we should have 14 GRT, we only have 7 GRT

Unfinished Business:

- None

New Business:

Dr. Greathouse led a discussion of task to draft a letter to the School Board – Reviewed Letter from last year – members discussed suggestions for this year’s letter – Dr. Hummer encourages GAC to prepare a presentation to present to the School Board members and gave suggestions on the nature of the presentation and ways to make it meaningful and accessible to the school board members.

Members discussed the importance of identifying students from diverse backgrounds (gender, social, racial/ethnic, economic) and to ensure that no students are missed in the identification processes and ensure that there is representation in higher level math classes as well.

GAC members discussed the idea of School Board members attending GAC meetings and meeting gifted eligible students and hearing from them. Dr. Hummer suggested that a School Board member is present at GAC meetings. Dr. Greathouse suggested that a student be on the GAC; perhaps one middle school and one high school student.

Ms. Mohr mentioned that it would be helpful to show prospective PRISMS students the projects from former PRISMS students such as making a slide show to generate interest and topic ideas.

Ms. Mohr connected with Dr. Myers about a concern regarding the way gifted services are scheduled differently at different middle schools.

Ms. Wilbourne described the challenges in scheduling as it pertains to the school system's plan that gifted eligible students are grouped together, reviewing that this is not always manageable due to "empty spots" needing to be filled by other students to even out classroom numbers.

Dr. Greathouse thanked those committee members who will be rotating off the committee.

Announcements:

School Board Art Showcase – May 10, 2023, 6:30 to 7:30 PM

PRISMS Showcase – Wed May 24, 2023

GIS Showcases – by invitation only – May 2023

Public Comment:

None

Future Meeting Dates:

This is the last meeting for this school year. 2023 – 2024 meeting dates will be determined in Fall 2023.

Adjournment:

T. Knight made the motion to adjourn the meeting and it was adjourned at **8:09 PM**.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tiffany Markwood

Executive Committee Meeting: Did not meet