

Gifted Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
 FCPS Administration Building – Wright Board Room
January 22, 2024

Call to order: The quarterly meeting of the Frederick County Public Schools Gifted Advisory Committee was held on January 22, 2024 in the Wright Board Room in the FCPS Administration Building. The meeting was convened at 7:02 p.m. by J. Greathouse, Supervisor of Tiered Systems of Supports & Gifted Services.

Members in attendance:

School	Representative
Admiral Richard E. Byrd Middle School	J. Fauver
Apple Pie Ridge Elementary School	K. Sheikh
Armel Elementary School	Absent
Bass-Hoover Elementary School	R. Akers
Evendale Elementary School	Absent
Frederick County Middle School	L. Lowrey
Gainesboro Elementary School	A. Garcia
Greenwood Mill Elementary School	A. Thomas
Indian Hollow Elementary School	D. Guardado
James Wood High School	A. Linton
James Wood Middle School	T. Markwood
Jordan Springs Elementary School	R. Manyam
Middletown Elementary School	M. Guntang
Millbrook High School	T. Knight
Orchard View Elementary School	J. Miller
Robert E. Aylor Middle School	Absent
Sherando High School	Absent
Stonewall Elementary School	A. Hawse
Gifted Resource Teacher Representative	M. Wilson
Gifted Visual Teacher Representative	L. Bibb
School Counseling Representative	K. Wilbourne
Elementary Administrator	Absent
Middle School Administrator	J. Rowan
High School Administrator	S. Andrews
School Board Member	Absent
Supervisor of Tiered Systems of Supports & Gifted Services	J. Greathouse
Director of Middle and Secondary Instructional Services	J. Myers

Meeting called to order at 7:02 pm.

- Welcome by J. Greathouse.

Orientation

- There are no federal guidelines for the gifted programs.
- Code of VA-Law that governs gifted education in VA
- VA Regulations for Governing the Education of the Gifted
 - We must have an annual report and identify eligible students using multiple criteria.
- *FCPS 2023-2029 Local Plan for the Education of the Gifted*
 - This is a new plan beginning with the 2023-2024 school year.
- Gifted Advisory Committee Bylaws reviewed

Purpose of the Gifted Advisory Committee

- Located at the bottom of the agenda.

Approval of Agenda

- A motion was made by S. Andrews and seconded by M. Wilson, and the agenda for this meeting was approved.

Approval of Minutes

- A motion was made by J. Rowan and seconded by S. Andrews, and the minutes of the May 8, 2023, meeting were approved.

Chair's Report

- The 2022-2023 annual report from the Gifted Advisory Committee to the Instruction Committee of the FCPS School Board was shared.

Reports from Members/Representative Groups

Gifted Resource Teacher Representative M. Wilson, reported the following for gifted academic programs in FCPS schools:

Elementary

- Third through fifth grade Discovery students are exploring the concept of Value this year. Students will culminate the year with creating their own cultures based on what they value. Projects will be shared with families at a building level showcase event.
- Elementary Gifted Resource Teachers (GRTs) will begin the annual elementary screening process once all data has been generated by the individual schools.
- Elementary GRTs continue to advocate for adequate and appropriate space for meeting with identified students.

Middle

- Gifted Education in Middle School (GEMS) elective course—Middle school GRTs have prepared informational materials to share with fifth grade students as they make course selections for sixth grade. GEMS is a transition course for gifted learners as they transition from elementary to middle school.
- Problem Solving, Research, and Independent Study in Middle School (PRISMS) elective course—First semester PRISMS students presented their research projects at Laurel Ridge Community College as a way to present to an authentic audience. GRTs are working to return to Laurel Ridge Community College for the second semester showcase of projects. PRISMS

students visited Handley Regional Library to conduct research related to their topic of interest. PRISMS students have collaborated with and continue to collaborate with Mountain Vista Academic-Year Governor's School (MVGS) students as they work on their research projects.

High School

- Gifted Independent Study (GIS) elective course for 11th and 12th grade gifted learners— Students presented their first semester projects at a showcase event held at their high school.
- Students have been registering for classes for the 2024-2025 school year. The GRT has sent information to all high school students eligible for gifted services about the GIS course. Information meetings will also be held.
- The concept for second semester GIS students is Perspective with a focus on looking outward toward the world.

Gifted Visual Art Teacher Representative L. Bibb, reported the following for gifted visual art programs in FCPS schools:

Gifted visual art services are offered in grades 3-8.

- Gifted Art screenings are finished/will be finished soon.
- Gifted Art testing has begun/will begin this spring.

Supervisor of Tiered Systems of Supports & Gifted Services, J. Greathouse, reported the following for Governor's schools:

All governor's school programs are tuition-free and must include a consortium of at least three school districts and a college or university

- **Blue Ridge Regional Environmental Governor's School (BREGS)**

FCPS Testing Schedule was shared.

High School Testing

- **SOL**
 - 11th graders take the Reading SOL
 - Writing SOL given in March
 - All other tests are in May
 - Any seniors still needing to pass an SOL test throughout the year.
 - Algebra I, Biology and World History tests are the main SOL's.
- **PSAT**
 - Was given in October. It was available to any student who signed up. (Mainly 9th - 11th graders).
- **ASVAB**
 - Is a test for military but also like a Career Exploration test. 11th and 12th grade sign up and will be given in January for Millbrook Students.
 - Sherando gave it in October and will give it again in March. JWHS is not giving it.
- **AP**
 - All testing is in May
- **Testing Sites**
 - Millbrook is a test center for both the SAT and ACT and this is ongoing.
 - JWHS is a test center for SAT and this is ongoing.
 - Sherando is not a test site.

Middle School Testing

- **SOL**
 - Writing will be in March
 - All others in May
- **SGA**
 - Completed in September and January
- **Edia/Station**
 - Screeners - ongoing

Elementary School Testing

- **SOL**
 - Will occur in May
- **PAL's**
 - September: 1st/2nd grades
 - October: Kindergarten
 - January for students who are identified
- **SGA's**
 - Completed in October and again in January
- **ELL**
 - Completed annually once a year. The testing window is January through March.

Director of Middle and Secondary Instruction, J. Myers, reported the following:

- Information about the Superintendent's staffing standards
- Scheduling and registration for 2024-2025 classes
- Work of the grading coalition
- Superintendent's budget presentation to School Board and the budget process timeline

Unfinished Business

- None

New Business

- Election of officers
 - Chair - S. Andrews
 - Vice Chair - A. Lowrey
 - Secretary - T. Markwood
- Set meeting dates for the remainder of the year
 - Monday, March 4, 2024
 - Monday, April 8, 2024
 - Monday, May 13, 2024
- Focus for the Year
 - *FCPS 2023-2029 Local Plan for the Education of the Gifted*