

Gifted Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
FCPS Administration Building – Wright Board Room
January 30, 2023

Call to order: The quarterly meeting of the Frederick County Public Schools Gifted Advisory Committee was held on January 30, 2023 in the Wright Board Room in the FCPS Administration Building. The meeting was convened at 7:01 p.m. by J. Greathouse, Supervisor of Tiered Systems of Supports (GT & EL).

Members in attendance:

School	Representative
Admiral Richard E. Byrd Middle School	J. Fauver
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	K. Nagy
Indian Hollow Elementary School	Absent
James Wood High School	Absent
James Wood Middle School	T. Markwood
Jordan Springs Elementary School	R. Manyam
Middletown Elementary School	M. Davis
Millbrook High School	Absent
Orchard View Elementary School	J. Miller
Redbud Run Elementary School	R. Axmacher
Robert E. Aylor Middle School	B. Benson
Sherando High School	S. Sommerfeld
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

Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm.

- Welcome by B. Benson.

Purpose of the Gifted Advisory Committee

- Located at the bottom of the agenda.

Approval of Agenda

- A motion was made by T. Markwood and seconded, and the agenda for this meeting was approved.

Approval of Minutes

- A motion was made by J. Miller and seconded, and the minutes of the November 28, 2022 meeting were approved.

Chair's Report

- No report

Program - FCPS Gifted Services

- Discovery student, H. Moore, shared with committee members about student learning around the concept of Change this year. Past concepts explored by Discovery students were Balance, Perspective, and Value.
- GEMS student, R. Miller, shared with committee members how students learned more about what being gifted means. She suggested that Discovery lessons prepare students for GEMS and to select the course as one of their electives.
- PRISMS student, E. Carpenter, shared that the focus of PRISMS is on research and how students select a research topic of interest to them (the autonomous learner model). She shared her research topic and the process with committee members. She suggested that at the middle school level students like to be with their gifted peers for social time and that possibly holding an after-school event once a month would be great.
- GIS student, M. Bullock, shared with committee members how GIS extends what students learn about research in PRISMS to work with a community mentor. She shared her mentorship experiences and what she has learned about what she wants to do (and not do) beyond high school.
- SART student, A. Correa-Chavez, shared how gifted visual arts has stretched her thinking about art by being exposed to different mediums and materials.

Reports from Members/Representative Groups

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

Elementary

- The iStation/iReady windows will be closing soon & we'll be looking at data to form our spring evaluation pool.
- Also, beginning our invention/innovation unit & looking forward to seeing the creative products our students will present!
- BREGS applications were emailed to 5-8th graders.

Middle

- PRISMS classes from FCM, JWM, and REA visited Handley Library on Jan. 10 to learn how to access their databases, search for books, and use the archives. This field trip gave the students a broader depth of existing information for their topics. The head librarian says she looks forward to having our PRISMS students again.
- PRISMS Showcase is May 26, 2023, at Aylor MS. Specifics to come.

- This semester, the STAR (Student Thinking and Research) pilot course continues at JWMS. This is being considered as a potential prelude to PRISMS to explore research questioning, locating credible information, and writing in an active voice.

High School

- Applications are currently being accepted for the Gifted Independent Studies class and interviews will begin this week for next school year.
- PAVAN Governor's School for the Arts is accepting applications through February 28.

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

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

- Nothing new to report since the last meeting

Supervisor of Tiered Systems of Supports (GT & EL), J. Greathouse, reported the following for Governor's schools:

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

- Blue Ridge Regional Environmental Governor's School (BREGS)
 - Applications being accepted until February 10, 2023
- Performing and Visual Arts Northwest (PAVAN)
 - Applications being accepted until February 28, 2023
- Summer Residential Governor's School programs
 - Currently in the application process
 - Academic - five students (all MHS) interested in MS&T with one possibly applying for the engineering program
 - VPA - one vocal music (MHS) and three visual art
 - None for Ag or World Languages
- Mountain Vista Academic-Year Governor's School for Science, Mathematics, and Technology (MVGS)
 - Applications being accepted until March 3, 2023

School Counseling Representative, K. Wilbourne, reported the following for school counseling programs in FCPS schools:

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 will test in December.
 - 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 on January 18th 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 (3 dates this year: essay, multiple choice, and a new field test)
 - All others in May
- **SGA**
 - Completed in September and January
- **IReady/IStation**
 - 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

All Grade Levels : ELL

- Completed annually once a year. This year is January 17th through March 17th.

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

- The division has a new superintendent, Dr. George Hummer
- Staff is in the process of preparing for the 2023-2024 school year
 - Student registration for classes at middle and high schools
 - Staffing
 - Budget “season” has started and will be ongoing for the next several months
- Planning for 2023 Summer Academy for elementary and middle school students has begun

Unfinished Business

- Election of secretary - T. Markwood

New Business

- Shared an article from National Association for Gifted Children (NAGC) from the September 2022 issue of Parenting for High Potential - *Parenting for Polymathy: Raising Generalists May be Advantageous for the Future*
- Next meeting - student panel composed of students attending (or attended) a Governor’s School program

Announcements

- Save the Date
 - The 2023 FCPS Virtual Art Showcase - May 10, 2023 from 6:30 to 7:30 pm
- PRISMS Showcase

- Robert E. Aylor Middle School on Wednesday, May 24, 2023, from 10:30 am to 12 noon (this is a date change from what was previously shared)
- GIS Showcases - by invitation only

Public Comment

- None

Future Meetings

- March 27, 2023 at 7:00 pm in the Wright Board Room at the FCPS Administration Building
- May 8, 2023 at 7:00 pm in the Wright Board Room at the FCPS Administration Building

Adjournment

J. Fauver made the motion to adjourn the meeting and it was adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Judi Greathouse, Ed. D.

Executive Committee Meeting—Did not meet.