# Gifted Education Advisory Committee (GEAC) to the Norfolk School Board Presiding Officer: Dr. Ronald White

**February 13th, 2023, Meeting Minutes**

This meeting was held at: Academy for Discovery at Lakewood Media Center located at 1701 Alsace Avenue, Norfolk, Virginia 23509**.**

# In attendance:

***Members:***

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| **Dr. Ronald White** | **Chair, Parent** |
| **Dr. Jori Beck** | **Co-Chair~~,~~ Community** |
| **Hollis Simodynes** | **Co-Chair, Parent** |
| **Karla Stead** | **Sr. Coordinator, Gifted Ed & Academic Rigor Services/GEARS** |
| **Serita Griffin** | **Co-Secretary,Community** |
| **Dr. David Courson** | **Parent** |
| **Thomas Ambler** | **Community** |
| **Vicky Greco** | **Parent** |
| **Dominique Lane** | **GRT** |
| **Myron Maher III** | **Community** |
| **Dr. Jennifer Martin** | **Parent** |

***Guests:***

|  |  |
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| **Bruce Brady** | **Executive Director Department of Curriculum and Instruction** |
| **Chris Michaels** | **GRT-Larrymore** |
| **Fonda Fairweather** | **GRT-Norview ES** |
| **Susan King** | **GRT-Jacox** |

**Welcome:** Dr. Ronald White, Chair called the meeting to order at 6:04p.m.

**Old Business**

**Review of minutes:** Dr. White asked the members if they had reviewed the minutes/notes from the meeting held on November 14th , 2023, and that were provided via email for members to review.

At **6:04 p.m.** a motion was made to approve the minutes. It was seconded and all members were in favor of approving the minutes.

* Dr. White opened the discussion about reviewing the SMART goals.
* Dr. Beck facilitated the discussion about the SMART goals that GEAC has been working on for the past several meetings.
  + Members took a few minutes to review each of the SMART goals-A, B, and C.
* Dr. Beck posed the question: *“How would we like to proceed with evaluating and revising Goals D, E, and F?”*
  + Some ideas were proposed: working through the Summer, creating a sub-committee to work on the goals, tabling the revision of D, E, and F until the 2024-25 school year

**New Business**

* At 6:17 Mrs. Karla Stead began discussing in-depth the gifted identification process.
  + CoGat testing (currently happening) is the universal screener used by Norfolk.
  + Annual referrals
  + Mrs. Stead presented several resources from the National Association for Gifted Children (NAGC) on the identification process.
  + Changes have been made to the rating forms.
  + A shorter informational document has been created for parents to give a more succinct overview of the services provided by GEARS.
  + Mrs. Stead discussed the interview questions that students are asked during the identification process.
    - She emphasized that it is a question bank, there are no right answers, and that the purpose of the questions is to ascertain how the student thinks. The interviewer will typically pick 5 questions to ask the student.
  + Identification is not based upon a test score alone, but is based upon multiple indicators including: referral, testing, portfolios, interviews, and observations.
    - There are rubrics for the interviews and portfolios.
* GRTs present at the meeting discussed specifics about the identification process.

**Public comment:** At 7:06Dr. White opened the public comment portion of the meeting for stakeholders wishing to address the GEAC on the topic of their choice regarding gifted education. All stakeholders are welcome to give their full statements in writing to the GEAC chair at [rlwhite@nsu.edu](mailto:rlwhite@nsu.edu)

Follow-up regarding issues raised will be conducted as needed and shared with the full committee. No public comments were offered prior to the meeting.

**Announcements**

* School Board Advisory Applications are being accepted until February 29th.
* NPS Budget Hearing, March 6th-School Board Work Session (4:00p.m.); Public Hearing (6:30pm)
  + - School Board Dates: <https://go.boarddocs.com/vsba/nps/Board.nsf/Public>.
* Members will vote on when to conduct a future virtual meeting at our next meeting.

# REMAINING 2024 GEAC MEETING DATES:

* + Tuesday, March 12 @ 6PM, Media Center, ADL
  + Tuesday, April 9 @ 6PM, Media Center, ADL
  + Tuesday, May 14 @ 6PM, Media Center, ADL
  + Tuesday, June 4\* @ 6PM, LOCATION TBD \*Please note change to the first Tues. in June

**Chair Closing Remarks** -Members may submit all feedback via email to Dr. Ronald White at rlwhite@nsu.edu

**At 7:18 p.m. - Dr. White adjourned the meeting.**