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

**Mach 12th, 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** |
| **Hollis Simodynes** | **Co-Chair, Parent** |
| **Karla Stead** | **Sr. Coordinator, Gifted Ed & Academic Rigor Services/GEARS** |
| **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** |
| **Fonda Fairweather** | **GRT-Norview ES** |
| **Susan King** | **GRT-Jacox** |

**Welcome:** Dr. Ronald White, Chair called the meeting to order at 6:07p.m.

**Old Business**

**Review of minutes:** Dr. White asked the members if they had reviewed the minutes/notes from the meeting held on February13th , 2023, and that were provided via email for members to review.

A motion was made to approve the minutes. It was seconded and all members were in favor of approving the minutes.

* Nominations Committee update:
  + Ms. Karla Stead announced that eight applications were received for GEAC membership.
  + The nominating committee briefed all members that the applications would be divided up and vetted by calling the applicants and their references. They will be invited to the April 8 Zoom meting by Mr. Maher and Ms. Simodynes.
  + At the end f the April 8 meeting, only members of GEAC will stay behind and vote to admit the new applicants.
  + Non-active members will receive an email asking whether they had interest in continuing o serve, those that do not respond will be recommended for removal from GEAC membership (they are all welcome to attend future meetings).

**New Business**

* At 6:27 Mrs. Karla Stead began discussing the interview portion of the gifted identification process.
  + She reminded the committee 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.
* Committee members broke into small groups to review and discuss the questions and GRTs present at the meeting advised each small group. Committee members familiarized themselves with the questions and heard from the GRTs on how they are applied in practice.
* Committee members requested review of the scoring rubric.

**Public comment:** Dr. 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**

* March 23, 2024 Norfolk Public Schools will host Family University from 9:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. at Norview High School.
* The next GEAC meeting on April 8, 2024 will be held on Zoom. Dr. Joy Lawson will be our guest speaker. Joy Lawson Davis, Ed.D. is a career educator with over 40 years of experience as a practitioner, scholar, author and consultant. In addition to local district and university experiences, Davis served for five years as the Virginia State Specialist for K-12 Gifted services. A graduate of the College of William & Mary, Dr. Davis holds both master's and doctorate degrees in Gifted Education. Davis has conducted workshops, been a long-term program consultant, and served as a keynote speaker and distinguished guest lecturer across the nation, in South Africa, the Caribbean, Dubai UAE & Turkey. Diversity Education and Gifted Education are her areas of special expertise. Dr. Davis served for five years on the Board of Directors of the National Association for Gifted Children. She has published numerous articles, technical reports and book chapters and is the author of the award-winning book: Bright, Talented & Black: a Guide for Families of African American Gifted Learners and Gifted Children of Color Around the World: Diverse Needs, Exemplary Practices and Directions for the Future, co-edited with Dr. James L. Moore III. Davis is the Special Populations columnist for the NAGC publication: Teaching for High Potential and serves on the Gifted Child Today advisory board. Dr. Davis was recently awarded the 2019 Lifetime Achievement Award from the Supporting Emotional Needs of the Gifted organization (SENG).
* April 10, 2024, NPS School Board Work Session (4:00p.m.)
  + - School Board Dates: <https://go.boarddocs.com/vsba/nps/Board.nsf/Public>.

# REMAINING 2024 GEAC MEETING DATES:

* + Tuesday, April 9 @ 6PM, ZOOM
  + 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 7:21 p.m. - Dr. White adjourned the meeting**