

Minutes
York County School Division
Gifted Education Advisory Committee

Tuesday, May 17, 2011

7:00 pm in the YCSD School Board Office Round Room

- Welcome and Call to Order – Jane Roithmayr
- Committee Members in Attendance

Jane Roithmayr – York High School, Committee Chair
Vikki Wismer – Governor’s School for Science and Technology
Shelly Cihak – IB Programme Coordinator
Amy Colley – School Board Office
Phyllis Milne – School Board Office
Sarah Haywood – EXTEND Center
Yo Doelling – Yorktown Middle School, Treasurer
Kelly Maloney – Grafton High School
Janet Riddett – Seaford Elementary School
Caroline Anderson – Dare Elementary School
Marybeth Young – Tabb High School
Kathy Wincheski – Magruder Elementary School
Sarah Kueser – Waller Mill Elementary School
Sue Trask – Bruton High School
Rebecca Cho – Queens Lake Middle School, Past Committee Chair
Patty Mastracci – Community Member, Secretary

- Governor’s School Update – Vikki Wismer
Everyone received a handout detailing the highlights of the program. It is a two year, half day program with approximately 180 participants. The three academic models are Engineering, Biological Science, and Scientific Programming. The competition for acceptance is rigorous with over 200 applications for 30 seats each year. Students graduating last year were awarded \$4.3 million in scholarships.
- IB Programme Update – Shelly Cihak
The program aims for students to become compassionate, life-long learners and exposes them to real world experiences. Admittance to the MYP program at Yorktown Middle School is through an application and lottery system. There are currently 50 sixth graders, 50 seventh graders and 28 eighth graders in the program.
IB students are awarded an international diploma if their scores on the IB tests are high enough. The pre-IB Programme at York High School accepted 50 students for next year since the new hybrid 4x4 schedule will accommodate more students.
- Secretary’s Report – Patty Mastracci
A motion was made and passed to accept the minutes from the March 22, 2011 meeting.

- **Treasurer's Report – Yo Doelling**
The committee is using a new bank in order to avoid extra fees. A motion was made and accepted to approve the treasurer's report.
- **Fund Raising Update – Kathy Wincheski**
After discussion, it was decided to send the fund raising letter out earlier in the year next year. The date will be finalized at the October meeting.
- **PEP and EXTEND Program Update – Mrs. Haywood**
Kindergarten seminars have begun; two more were held this year (for a total of 6). The Virginia War Museum and the Virginia Air and Space Museum brought programs in addition to the Mariners' Museum, a local artist formerly with the Mathews Bay School of the Arts, and the Virginia Living Museum (they do two programs). There are approximately 45 students who are coming for each of the presentations, which is about 20 fewer than last year.

The PEP to EXTEND testing cycle was recently completed. There were 82 second grade PEP students who completed the testing during the first week of May.

Enrollment has also increased this year in the program. There are currently 637 students, which is 24 more students enrolled than this time last year, and it is approximately 100 more students than two years ago. At the Center, parent volunteers are being used to assist with some of the large classes. The staff has been asked to look closely at current enrollment figures and create several possible schedules/groupings to help alleviate these big classes.

Annual summer testing sessions will be conducted. Last year this provided services for 68 students in July and 32 students at the end of August.

- **Annual Gifted Education Survey – Mrs. Haywood**
There were over 300 responses to the paper survey sent out this year. One suggestion was to publicize meeting dates so that more parents know and can attend. We might try to meet at the end of August prior to Open Houses to discuss information for reps to share at school.
- **YCSD Gifted Education Update – Mrs. Colley and Dr. Milne**
Dr. Milne shared the YCSD gifted enrollment statistics. There has been an increase each year in the number of AP classes taken at the high school level.
- **Other Business**
Volunteer Opportunities – We need a Chair, Vice-Chair, and Secretary for 2011-2012. (Janet Riddett volunteered to be secretary.)

Annual Review of By-Laws – A motion was made and passed to approve the by-laws as amended.

Meeting adjourned – 8:34 pm