



Gifted Education Advisory Board

Meeting Agenda-January 13, 2014 **Minutes**

President, Tomeka Eley tee2676@email.vccs.edu

Attendance: Twenty-six of the thirty-eight board members were present.

Goals:

- To provide a voice for the gifted community expressing suggestions and concerns as they pertain to the Suffolk Public Schools Gifted Services
- To sponsor a community seminar/workshop in the winter
- To sponsor a community awareness program in the spring
- To review the SPS gifted plan

- **Opening Introductions** Carol Kennedy-Dickens 1 min.
Supervisor, Advanced Instruction
Tameka Eley, President
- **Program reports** Brief Reports were made on activities that have been 15 min.
completed in the various levels. Highlights were:
- Elementary K-2 services/ Elementary QUEST an explanation of 2nd grade screening
 - Elementary Talented Music and Art an indication of what the testing for talented art entails and a notice of the STARS program which is upcoming for the music students.
 - Middle School QUEST 6-8 The middle school presented a short video highlighting activities they managed during the semester.
 - Advanced Instruction 9-12 The board was reminded of the three high school programs which students can apply for as specialty programs. In addition, there was mentioned that the PSAT information was disseminated which leads to AP potential. An emphasis was placed on making sure that juniors sit for the PSATs.
 - Supervisor's Report The Governor's School programs were again mentioned.
- **Old Business** 5 min.
- Selection of the local plan to review for 2013-2014 The board had been prompted at the last meeting to view the local plan located on the blog and determine which section they would like to see us focus on for this year. No suggestions were made which led to the assumption that the board is pleased with the local plan and what we are doing.
- **New Business** There were no new business items mentioned. 5 min.
- **Closing/Preparation for the Seminar** 1 min.

Access information: <http://blogs.spsk12.net/spsgifted/>

We broke into the two sessions for the community seminars:

Using Gifted Teaching Techniques at Home facilitated by the middle school GRTs in the media center or How to Prepare My Child for the Gifted Assessments facilitated by the elementary GRTs in the cafeteria. There were approximately 25 adults and their children in the former and 30 adults and their children in the latter. Eighteen surveys were completed. The surveys revealed:

- ✚ All but one thought that the seminars were great/outstanding.
- ✚ Comments included:
 - Excellent presentation
 - Compliments on having presented information on how to prepare
 - Concern as to whether funding for the program will be continued
 - Gave a great understanding of how to better work with the gifted child at home
 - Questions were answered clearly and completely
 - Grateful of the websites
 - Very informative
 - Good to know the suggested games for gifted students
 - Great information and examples on tables
 - Hard to hear the speaker in the cafeteria

Several parents gave their email addresses so that they can be placed on the gifted distribution list.