

DRAFT

Date:

TBD

For: ACTION___

For: INFORMATION ___

Board Agenda: Yes ___ No ___

FROM: Nicholas Miller, Chair, Talented and Gifted Advisory Committee (TAGAC)

TO The Honorable Cindy Anderson, Chair, and
Members of the Alexandria City School Board

THROUGH: Gregory C. Hutchings, Jr., Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools
Terri H. Mozingo, Ed.D., Chief Academic Officer
Gerald R. Mann, Jr., Ed.D., Executive Director of Secondary Instruction
Donna Brearley, Gifted and Talented Program

TOPIC: Proposed 2019-2020 Talented and Gifted Advisory Committee
Scope of Work

SUMMARY:

The Talented and Gifted Advisory Committee (TAGAC) activities during the 2019-20 school year will continue its work to improve the educational and social/emotional needs of Talented and Gifted Students in ACPS by focusing it's effort on topics including:

- 1) Following and advocating for the implementation of the 2020 updates to the *Local Plan*; Being vocal contributors to the update of the local plan
- 2) Examining delivery of services at each level (Elementary, Middle and High School) and the effectiveness of the academic rigors in the differentiation of the teaching of curriculum offered to TAG students as well as accountability for delivery of these services
- 3) Examining appropriate identification of ACPS students for TAG services with a specific focus on underrepresented populations and programs
- 4) Focusing on the social/emotional needs of TAG students in ACPS

BACKGROUND:

TAGAC has discussed a number of potential items for its *Scope of Work* for the 2019-20 academic year. This Memorandum describes the areas that the Committee may undertake for review and propounding recommendations. Underlying all of these recommendations is the expectation of improved communications with the students, teachers, faculty and general public on all of these topics.

TAG Local Plan review:

In following its established timeline, the process of reviewing and adopting a revised **Local Plan** continued in the SY 2017-18, but due to the new Superintendent only starting as of July 1, 2018, and the need for further study it was appropriately decided that ACPS would delay revisions to the **Local Plan** until SY 2018-19 so that the results of the audit evaluation and the State's technical review could better inform the process. The new ACPS Superintendent determined that the TAG local plan should be updated incrementally and the first partial update is due in 2020. TAGAC will continue to work with ACPS as to appropriate revisions to the new **Local Plan** updates by providing input and incorporating results from its ongoing evaluation. As set forth in its Annual Report and the attached Sub-Committee Reports providing recommendations for all levels within the school system.

Delivery of Services:

The TAGAC is keenly aware of differences, both real and perceived, in the delivery of services across ACPS and the need to define a sense of continuity both across and between the three traditional segments of education in ACPS. TAGAC will focus on assisting the TAG coordinators and central office to work with the principals and teachers on identifying these differences and working to resolve the differences. The goal is to provide equity across the system by establishing the expectation of the level services that is appropriate, the communication of those services and the accountability of that delivery from elementary to graduation for our TAG student population.

Identification for Services:

The TAGAC is keenly aware of issues with our current identification process and intends to focus on identifying ways the TAG identification process for all students is fair, equitable and universal. This include investigating testing in native languages, identification in science and social studies, communication about non-traditional referral paths in the community and examination of other school systems methods for identifying underrepresented populations.

Social/Emotional Needs of TAG Students:

The TAGAC will strive to offer public education sessions on the social/emotional needs of TAG students and strive to include topics related to the fundamentals of social and emotional needs into the Local Plan updates and the ACPS 2025 master plan.

RECOMMENDATION:

IMPACT:

CONTACT PERSON: Nicholas Miller, TAGAC Chair SY2018-19

Donna Brearley, TAG Coordinator (703-619-8024)