

MINUTES OF GT TRANSITION COMMITTEE MEETING
NOVEMBER 28, 2007

Persons in attendance: Phyllis Pajardo, Louise Porter, Gary Hinson, Ulysses Cox, Linda Washco, Dr. Daniel Cottle, Dean Shepherd, Laura Walter, Heather Brennan, Patrice Robataille, Denise Pensinger, Grace Cassidy, Kristina Sheridan, Gail Brodfuehrer, Krishna Chintagunta, Haya El Nasser, Belkys & Jose Escobar, Martin Cohen, Jeff Friedman, Alison Jacoby, Dan Allen, Tom Sonnen

Minutes Submitted By: Denise Pensinger, Secretary, GT Transition Committee

- I. Subcommittees did not meet with Mr. Cox
- II. General Meeting
 - A. Information Nights at Non-Base Schools
 1. Mosby Woods – 12/4, 7:00 p.m.-8:30 p.m.
 2. Louise Archer – 12/5, 7:00 p.m.-8:30 p.m.
 3. Questions to be written down and answered by speakers
 - B. Input on Open House – January 17
 1. Review of video about GT center created by Dr. Cottle
 2. Suggestions about video
 - a. Information about textbooks used
 - b. Information about differences between Honors & GTC
 - c. Provide nuts and bolts and address concerns of parents and then show the video
 - d. Math piece needs to be added to video
 - e. Adding a diversity piece
 - (i) How do we incorporate the uniqueness of the diversity at LJMS?
 - (ii) Do we add it to the brochure or do we talk about it at meetings
 3. Brochure is the second piece of the presentation; this is more factual
 - a. Creative Writing
 - (i) Using Ohio Model, higher level activities
 - (ii) Is creative writing taught that way in Fairfax County
 - (iii) It lends itself to differentiation
 - b. Tech/Innovations/MP3
 4. Have a parent present at the Open House

5. Describe what new electives will be available next year
 - a. Course booklet gets published in January
 - b. Course selections due Spring Break
 - c. Will GT children be able to be kept up
 - d. 7th grade Spanish
6. Safety
 - a. Analysis of the specifics
 - b. Preparation for the meetings
7. Test Scores
 - a. Comparison between school that had GT and did not
 - b. Comparison between # of ESOL in both schools
8. Timing
 - a. 5:00-7:00 p.m.
 - b. 6:00-8:00 p.m.- decided this was best to accommodate parents' work schedules
9. Children attending the meetings with parents
 - a. Feelings of student – no friends, new place, etc.
 - b. Introduction of school to students

C. Parent Information for Rising 7th & 8th Grade GTC Students

1. Meetings will be held in mid-February
2. Usual orientation with special early session (6:15) for GT/Honors

NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD ON JANUARY 9, 2008 AT 7:00 P.M and will separate into two groups-rising 7th and rising 8th grade.