



Arts Learning Task Force Meeting

Tuesday, April 28, 2015 • 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Georgia Department of Education

*Floyd Veterans Memorial Building, Suite 2056, 205 Jesse Hill Jr. Drive SE,
Atlanta, GA 30334*

Attendees

Pam Smith, Woody Leonard, Debi West, Pam Beagle-Daresta, Charisse Williams, Atiba Mbiwan, Amy Duke, Gladys Wyant, Richard Woods, Cindy Worley, Jeremy Spencer, Cecil Wilder, Cathy Heller, Lauren Phillips, Karen Clevenger, Frank Pruet, Barry Schrenk, Karen Paty, Allen Bell

NOTES

10:05 am Welcome and Remarks by State Superintendent

Mr. Richard Woods, State School Superintendent of Georgia

Pam Smith welcomed the Task Force and introduced Superintendent Woods.

Superintendent Woods delivered remarks to the Task Force. He thanked the Arts Learning Task Force for strengthening opportunities for students across the state.

10:20 am Panel of Guests from Statewide Arts Educator Associations

- Cathy Heller, President, Georgia Art Education Association
- Cecil Wilder, Executive Director, Georgia Music Educators Association
- Frank Pruet, Vice President/President Elect, Educational Theatre Association
- Karen Clevenger, Vice President-Dance, Georgia Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance

The Task Force members and guest panelists introduced themselves. The guest panelists described their respective organizations and discussed ways to improve arts learning in their respective disciplines.

Cathy Heller described GAEA. Cecil Wilder described GMEA. Frank Pruet described the Educational Theatre Association (EdTA) and Georgia Thespians. Karen Clevenger described the Georgia Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance (GAHPERD).

The guest panelists then took questions from the Task Force members.

Themes of the discussion included:

- Kaleidoscope and A Night of the Arts programs
- Aspects of technical theatre education
- Collaboration among statewide arts education organizations
- Creating opportunities for colleges to work with public schools
- Encouraging students to explore fine arts pathways
- The importance of relationships
- The importance of working and communicating with other statewide education organizations
- The importance of parent and community involvement
- The difficulty of finding arts teachers for schools in rural areas
- Taking arts learning programs and teaching artists to schools around the state
- Arts learning programs previously offered by GCA

11:45 am Lunch Break

12:30 am Overview of Georgia Virtual School and Plans for Fine Arts Staff
Jeremy Spencer, Associate Superintendent of Virtual School, Georgia DOE

Pam Smith introduced Jeremy Spencer, Associate Superintendent of the Georgia Virtual School.

Jeremy Spencer shared a presentation on the Georgia Virtual School (GAVS). He then answered a number of questions from the Task Force.

Themes of the discussion included:

- GAVS enrollment
- GAVS instruction in and tools available for foreign languages
- Expanding fine arts course offerings through GAVS
- Hiring a fine arts coordinator for GAVS
- The possibility of an afterschool component in GAVS for fine art
- Teacher qualifications for GAVS
- Funding for GAVS

1:30 pm Review of Recommendations and Discussion

The Task Force discussed the draft recommendations and revisions.

1:55 pm Closing Information

The Task Force discussed potential dates for their final meeting and Working Group calls.

2:00 pm Adjourn