Gifted Child Committee Report Submitted by: Michelle Gluck

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**Meetings/Calls/Events**

8/28 Superintendent’s Budget Advisory Committee

9/5 Superintendent’s Budget Advisory Committee

9/17 Superintendent’s Budget Advisory Committee

9/24 Delegates’ Assembly/Committee Fair

9/26 MSDE GT Advisory Council

10/1 Meeting with Curriculum Committee/OCIP & OSSI

10/3 Conference Call with VP Ed and GCC vice chair re upcounty MS magnet concerns

10/10 Superintendent’s Budget Advisory Committee

10/10 Board of Directors meeting

**Upcoming**

10/22 Delegates’ Assembly

10/23 AEI Feedback Council

10/23 BOD/BOE Meeting

10/31 Meeting with VP Ed and Drs. Navarro and Statham

11/13 Superintendent’s Budget Advisory Committee

**Key Activities/Concerns**

1. **Implementation of “magnet expansion” classes in local schools.**

As part of the “Choice Study Response” revision of the ES and MS magnet application programs, MCPS introduced three classes for local schools to offer students who met magnet admission criteria but were not offered, or did not accept, magnet placements. These classes are the Enriched Literacy Curriculum (ELC) in elementary school, and Humanities and “enhanced” IM in middle school. To date, MCPS has released data on the cohorts offered admission into these programs, but no achievement or assessment data to demonstrate what happens to these students once they get in, even though I’ve been asking for some time. The Humanities curriculum has been well received by parents and students, but the enhanced math class does not appear to offer any real challenge or enrichment beyond the on grade level math class. Feedback on the ELC has been spotty.

1. **Ongoing concerns with the upcounty MS magnet programs.**

Parents and teachers have expressed concerns for several years that the upcounty middle school application magnet programs at Roberto Clemente Middle School have not been offered at the same level of instruction and rigor as the downcounty programs at Eastern and Takoma Park Middle Schools. These concerns have been exacerbated by the relocation of the upcounty Humanities magnet to Martin Luther King MS, which among other things has led to the loss of experienced magnet teachers. Cynthia and I met with Dr. Navarro and Dr. Statham in August to discuss these concerns, and will meet again on October 31 for a status update.

1. **New GT COMAR.**

The Code of Maryland Regulations has been amended effective July 2019 to require (rather than just recommend) local school districts to both identify GT students, using state-approved metrics and tests, and also report on those students’ progress. As the new regulations roll out, the GCC will be working closely with AEI and other affected offices to advocate for fidelity to the new requirements. I will supply more details next month.