



Executive Board Meeting • Quarter 1 March 14, 2016

I. CALL TO ORDER: President, Dianne Azarelli 7:03PM

II. ROLL CALL: President, Dianne Azarelli

Present

President	Dianne Azarelli	Hillsborough County	Region 3
Governance Secretary	Samantha Goodowens	Orange County	Region 3
Advocacy Chair	Karen Fradley	Pinellas County	Region 3
Education Chair	Dr. Bess Wilson	Duval County	Region 2
Membership Chair	Brenda Wirick	Jefferson County	Region 1
Public Relations Chair	Ashley Flowers-Hoang	Santa Rosa County	Region 1
Region I Coordinator	Mary-Margaret Enfinger	Leon County	Region 1
Region II Coordinator	Missy Kennedy	St. Johns County	Region 2
Region III Coordinator	Terri Pope-Hellmund	Orange County	Region 3
Region IV Coordinator	Zuzel Rodriguez	Broward County	Region 4
FLDOE Gifted Specialist	Kathleen Casper		

Absent/Joining Later

Past President	Stephanie Georgiades	Hillsborough County	Region 3
Treasurer	Meredith Miller	Duval County	Region 2

Vacant Positions

President- Elect
Bylaws Chair

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM QUARTER 4, 2015 MEETING

Dianne Azarelli: Call for a motion to approve minutes
 Karen Fradley: Motion to approve minutes
 Bess Wilson: 2nd motion to approve minutes
 VOTE: unanimous approval
 4th Quarter Meeting Minutes of December 15, 2015 APPROVED

IV. REPORTS

A. Treasury Report: Meredith Miller

Meredith Miller not present at meeting. Report approval tabled.

B. Committee Reports:

1. Advocacy Committee Chair: Karen Fradley

- Submitted written report attached to the minutes.

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- This quarter, Karen has not been contacted by any parents. She has, however, been contacted by a gentleman named Daniel Rirdan who currently works with the Innovation and Creativity Committee of The Colorado Association of the Gifted and Talented. Mr. Rirdan contacted FLAG regarding the development of a possible Gifted private school in Region 3 servicing middle/high grades using a PBL pedagogical basis. The recommendation from Karen was that his tuition price point was not a match for St. Petersburg but that other parts of Central Florida may support his model. She will make his information for anyone who is interested in working with him.

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- The proposed rule change review representing the opinions and concerns of the Executive Board Members of FLAG is attached. Initially distributed to the Executive Board in February, the statement has not been codified as an official position. It's official release will coincide with the rule change meeting that is currently not scheduled.

- Kathleen (FLDOE) said that the FLDOE was no longer formally accepting comments on the first draft of the proposed rule change but that comments could be emailed directly to her. She discussed the current concerns and positions that have been voiced to FLAG and FLDOE may not be applicable once the next draft of the rule change is revealed. While it has not been released yet, in fact, the comments that had been collected prior to the meeting's cancellation had been taken into consideration and were matriculated into the current draft. She recommended that the statement from the FLAG Board regarding the rule change coincide with the release of the as yet unreleased revision. Additionally, Kathleen, in recognition of her departure from the FLDOE at the end of the 2015-2016 school year, has tried to establish a workflow for the rule change to move from Standards to BESESS (Bureau of Exceptional Student Education and Student Services). This would hopefully allow the process to be more inclusive to the Gifted community stakeholders and allow FLAG to have a more active role.

- Dianne informed the members that she has spoken with Rene (Executive Director of NAGC) about their white paper on Gifted Eligibility. She will make that information available to the Board and would like NAGC's position to be taken into consideration alongside the needs of Florida's children as we approach this new rule.

- Kathleen reminded the Board that the issuance of the draft from her office was always intended as a starting position and never meant to be a final version. Many constructive comments came out of that first publication and she wanted to make sure that whenever the process is reinitiated, people continue to participate with a mindset of collaboration. Her intention is that with BESESS procedures and protocol, the rule change will be a positive experience and benefit a lot more children from currently underidentified populations. She informed us that there is a Joint Administrative Procedures Committee as part of the Legislature that can elucidate the process so going forward there will be less vitriol. Once she is no longer with the FLDOE, she will put together an easy summary for FLAG about the process.

- Bess recommended that someone from bylaws could work with Kathleen on creating a more streamlined process by which FLAG can officially respond in situations like this in a timelier manner.

- The bylaws position is currently vacant, but as soon as that position is appointed, one of their first duties will be to create a FLAG Manual with regards to it's relationship with the FLDOE. (i.e. lobbying, FLDOE, BESESS, legislative days)

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- Karen and Jenny Martin (President of Florida Gifted Network) were asked by NAGC to generate a list for a PARENT PANEL for the NAGC National Convention. There are still awaiting clarification as to whether their panel must be comprised of people already in attendance or if they can invite (possibly with a stipend for the convention) additional people. Their current list has 6 people:

- ~ Dr. Jim Delisle
- ~ Terry Bradley
- ~ Emily VR
- ~ Dr. Wendy Weiner
- ~ Dr. Lombardino
- ~ Karen Fradley

- In addition to the Parent Panel, Dianne clarified that NAGC has a contract with FLAG for the National Conference to Co-Host and we have 7 members representing the State of Florida on the Local Arrangements Committee. There are also benefits for up to \$5000 from NAGC if we have a large enough membership attend.

2. Bylaws Committee Chair:

VACANT

- No written report attached to the minutes.

- Dianne is considering a person and will have that name to submit soon. The Bylaws were emailed to all members prior to the meeting. The new document has been updated with the reorganization of the board and the descriptors of each post.

3. Education Committee Chair: Dr. Bess Wilson

- No written report attached to the minutes.

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- She has spent her time over the last quarter reaching out to the Regional Coordinators helping them plan their regional events. Those will be covered later in the meeting.

•b•

- She is working on creating documents available for download on the FLAG site for our membership. It is important for FLAG to have resources so membership is appealing.

4. Membership Involvement Chair: Brenda Wirick

- No written report attached to the minutes.

- Dianne welcomed Brenda to the board and explained that she is working on the auto-reminder program for the membership renewals. Brenda is already doing a great job streamlining this process and it's almost running itself.

5. Public Relations Committee Chair: Ashley Flowers-Hoang

- No written report attached to the minutes.

- Dianne welcomed Ashley to the board and mentioned she is very excited because Ashley is particularly qualified for this position. Ashley will be making sure the communications on social media, via the FLAG web site and mailings are improved as well as helping the board with its internal communications and meetings.

C. Region Reports:

1. Region I: Mary-Margaret Enfinger

- Submitted written report attached to the minutes.

- Region I Symposium was held in January. There were close to 50 people in attendance, but she is hoping to have an improved attendance and are considering a "Back to School" event as well.

2. Region II: Missy Kennedy

- No written report attached to the minutes.
- Missy introduced herself to the board and is looking forward to a great year. Her school district hosts a Parent Advisory Council every quarter which was held recently. They had close to 50 parents in attendance. They are pointed about moving this quarterly meeting throughout the district to increase access to families that may or may not be able to attend due to distance. In the future they will also be inviting neighboring districts from Region II to their PAC events. The next PAC meeting is set for April 21st. In the coming months she will also be presenting at The Florida League of Middle Schools.

3. Region III: Terri Pope-Hellmund

- Submitted written report attached to the minutes.
- Region III is sponsoring the UCF Faculty Advocates for Gifted Education Conference that will be held on April 2nd. It is in conjunction with Project Elevate funded by Javitz Foundation. The link to the conference will be on the web and also be in the newsletter. Terri would like to have a pamphlet or flier to pass out to people at the conference promoting FLAG, clarifying some of the activity that's been happening at FLDOE and also the NAGC Conference.

4. Region IV: Zuzel Rodriguez

- No written report attached to the minutes.
- a**•
 - Currently they are preparing for their Annual Fall Symposium which will be September 23, 2016. There were over 1,000 attendees last year, so they are looking for a new location. Dr. Jim Delisle will be the Keynote. The day will have over 400 sessions and the fee is nominal and they would like to invite all of FLAG's members. Zuzel would like for someone to host the FLAG table at the conference.
- b**•
 - There is a Parent's Gifted Advisory Council that meets monthly with over 50 members. The last meeting focused on the opportunities for summer enrichment and had representatives from SIG, Mensa, Duke TIP etc.
- c**•
 - Zuzel has been asked to be on The Diversity Committee and will be working on one of the Pre-Conference Workshops.
- d**•
 - Zuzel has asked for a list of members in her Region so she can reach out to her membership to increase members. Dianne will be working with Stephanie and Brenda to generate a Regional Membership list.

D. Local Arrangements Committee Update: Dianne Azzarelli

The members of this committee are:

Dianne Azzarelli -	Chair
Stephanie Georgiades -	Past President / Serving
Karen Fradley -	Serving
Dr. Bess Wilson -	Serving
Terri Pope-Hellmund	Serving
Kathleen Casper	Serving
Samantha Goodowens	Serving

* These members will be attending the conference without charge and a reduced rate at the hotel in exchange for working on various aspects of the conference.

- Dianne just returned from Washington, D.C. working with the Planning Committee to organize all of the presenters and proposals to set up the 2 days of the conference. She referenced that the Parent Panel that Karen was working on did have some people that she knew were going to be at the conference. It was mentioned by Kathleen Casper that if anyone from the recommend list was already speaking at NAGC or other conferences around the state that we possibly expand the Parent Panel to include new voices.

- Saturday, November 5th at the Conference is PARENT DAY and we will be hosting our Annual FLAG Membership Meeting at that time.

- Friday, November 4th will be the Annual FLAG Board Meeting to be held at the conference.

E. FLDOE: Kathleen Casper

- Submitted written report attached to minutes.

- Kathleen reiterated that she will no longer be working at the Florida Department of Education as of mid-May. She will be returning to the Tampa/St. Petersburg area. She is hoping to know her replacement prior to her departure so she can facilitate a smooth transition. She also wanted to make sure the FLAG Board was aware that she first offered to work from home when her family relocated, but the FLDOE declined her hope of distant employment. There are many items that are in the works and will be released prior to her departure. There will be a new FLORIDA GIFTED PLAN which have added homeschool and social/emotional components. The Challenge Grant will also hopefully be released prior to her departure as well. The job search is officially posted, so Kathleen is looking for recommendations from anyone who is interested in the post.

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. Call For President-Elect Nomination

President-Elect nominations will be called for in the March newsletter and the nomination will be codified in April.

B. Nomination for Paid Position & Title Discussion

This position will be work out to be \$15/hr for 5hrs per week, totaling \$1500

Dianne Azzarelli: Nominates Stephanie Georgiades
Terri Pope-Hellmund: Motion to approve Stephanie Georgiades
Karen Fradley: 2nd Motion to approve Stephanie Georgiades
VOTE: unanimous approval

• Discussion on the specific title for the paid position resulted in the distinction based on the amount of hours and pay should be Coordinator vs. Executive Director.

Dr. Bess Wilson: Motion to formalize title to Coordinator
Mary-Margaret Enfinger: 2nd Motion to approve title of Coordinator
VOTE: unanimous approval

C. Board Meeting Schedule for 2016-2017

Quarter 2 Board:	June 13	7:00P	Teleconference
Quarter 3 Board:	August 22	7:00P	Teleconference
Quarter 4 Board:	November 4	T.B.D.	NAGC Convention
Annual General:	November 5	T.B.D.	NAGC Convention

D. Board Announcements / Requests / General

No Announcements At This Time

VI. ADJOURNMENT

8:17PM

****ALL SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION REFERENCED DURING THE MEETING ATTACHED***

Advocacy Chair - Spring 2016 Quarterly Report

Parent Update:

In February I received an email from Daniel Rirdan. He has been on the Innovative and Creativity Committee of the Colorado Association for Gifted and Talented, and will be moving with my family to Florida this summer. He contacted me to express his interest in opening a private, project-based, progressive school for gifted and creative youth in Florida and ask me where in the state I felt his school would be most needed and viable. I shared with him some of the private school options already available around the St. Pete and Tampa area. I think his idea is great, but the cost is probably too high to be sustainable for St. Pete. He's hoping to ask for a tuition of \$19,000. If anyone has any other input or would like to see a school like this open in their area, I'm happy to communicate

Legislative Update:

Early February the State submitted a proposed rule change for gifted eligibility. I collected opinion statements from board members and created a one-page summary representing board members' concerns and questions. Members were asked to respond to me directly for the purpose of keeping a level of anonymity due to this being a very heated topic among board members. Review is attached below.

NAGC Update:

Jenny Martin and I have worked together to compile a list of possible speakers for a parent panel. We tried to compile a diverse group of speakers which would be able to share personal experience as well as their research.

Jim DeLisle — general all around great speaker on gifted topics and 2E

Terry Bradley — SENG Facilitator Trainer; social / emotional aspects of giftedness & has a practice consulting with parents of gifted

Emily VR — writer pursuing graduate certificate in gifted education; diverse and special populations & PARENT of 2 gifted boys.

Dr. Wendy Weiner — specializes in gifted under-achievement; runs a private school in Broward County (Fort Lauderdale / Davie)

Dr. Lombardino (or Dr. Conway) — dyslexic specialists, both working in Gainesville (Dr. Lombardino is at the University of Florida) Her sister was gifted and dyslexic

Karen Fradley — Homeschool PARENT

We are waiting for our next meeting with NAGC to find out more before moving forward with these choices.

**FLAG Quarterly Report
1st Quarter – January - March
Region 1
Submitted 3/14/16**

Board Member: Mary-Margaret Enfinger

Membership / Professional Development

Gifted Endorsement Courses Available

- LCS District
 - GEC2 Guidance and Counseling offered online to teachers (February - April)
- FDLRS / LCS District
 - GEC5 Special Populations offered online to teachers in 5 counties (April - June)

1st Quarter Event

4rd Annual Gifted Teacher / Parent Symposium

- Saturday, January 23rd, 8:30am – 12pm
 - Attendance
 - 50+ parents / educators & 25 students
 - FLAG promotion
 - Opening remarks included overview of FLAG for parents and educators
 - Guest Speaker:
 - Randy Vickers – Solution Skills
“Fostering Self-Motivation and Resiliency for a Lifetime with a Gifted Child”
 - STEAM based activity for elementary school students

Marketing

Tallahassee Gifted Network

- Quarterly flyers / newsletters promote FLAG membership

Region III, FLAG 2016

Terri Pope-Hellmund was named the FLAG Coordinator for Region III.

UCF invites FLAG to present at the annual gifted education conference. Dianne Azzarelli, President and Terri Pope-Hellmund, Regional Coordinator, will present updates on Florida Gifted activity throughout the state. Join us for the Gifted Education Conference at the Morgridge International Reading Center on Saturday, April 2 from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. UCF faculty advocates for Gifted Education (ADAGE) in conjunction with Project ELEVATE present Gifted Education professional development. The event will explore innovative research perspectives, technology, and best practices for teaching high-ability, gifted, and talented learners and elevating all learners through school-wide enrichment and acceleration.

This year's conference will feature keynote speaker Dr. C. June Maker from The University of Arizona discussing "Real Engagement in Active Problem Solving Model (REAPS)." Dr. C. June Maker is presenting as part of the Gifted Strand courtesy of the UCF Project ELEVATE Grant, and also serves as the Preconference for the UCF ADAGE Gifted Education (April 1) with the full conference on April 2, 2016. Project Elevate is funded by the USDOE Jacob K. Javits Grant #5206A150014.

Visit <http://education.ucf.edu/gifted/events.cfm> for more information.

Florida Association for the Gifted Spring 2016 Region 4 Report

New Proposed Rule

In Broward County, we worked with staff and parents to prepare a response to the proposed rule change for gifted eligibility. The report was submitted to the DOE website and it was also shared with the FLAG board members. Waiting to see if the workshop will be rescheduled.

Symposium 2016

Broward County is in the process of scheduling their Fall Gifted Symposium. This years theme is Super Powered: Changing the World One Gifted At a Time. The gifted symposium is scheduled for Friday, September 23, 2016 at Pompano Beach High School. Our keynote speaker is Jim Delisle. We will be sending FLAG the link to our website and registration as soon as it is up. We will have workshops for parents, teachers and administrators.

NAGC 2016

Regional 4 coordinator for FLAG, Zuzel Rodriguez, has been chosen as part of the NAGC Diversity and Equity Committee and will be helping in the pre-conference workshop with the same title. Keynote speaker for this session is the Superintendent from Miami-Dade County, Mr. Carvalho. More information about this pre-conference workshop coming soon.

Florida Department of Education Representative Report
Kathleen Casper, FDOE Gifted Education Specialist

This has been a great year for gifted education in Florida! We have expanded training opportunities, held multiple district workshops, and had the wonderful participation of national gifted education experts as volunteer guest speakers on monthly gifted education webinars; updated policies and procedures in order to improve access to support services for gifted and twice exceptional students; became part of the conversation about the new state Exceptional Student Education certification competencies and exam and will likely see gifted education included in future teacher training programs for the ESE certification; and even started a conversation on changing the gifted identification rule and almost had a workshop!

We had a huge win when we watched the federal legislature pass the Every Student Succeeds Act and are excited to see gifted education trainings eligible for Title I and II funding in our Florida school districts.

Many other things are happening at the FDOE that should be coming to light soon, including updating a couple of the old technical assistance papers, revisions to the Florida Gifted Education Plan and Resource Guide, and updates to the Guidance and Counseling endorsement course module.

In the meanwhile, I have sure enjoyed traveling all over the place, meeting with administrators, educators and students in districts from coast to coast and from the top to the bottom of the state! The districts I have visited include: Nassau, Leon, FSUS, St. Johns, Marion, Miami-Dade, Brevard, Palm Beach, Broward, Pasco, Sarasota, Monroe, Jefferson, Collier, Escambia and Santa Rosa. I have also provided phone and email support to dozens more, as well as worked closely with parents and community members to help them find resolutions and information for their questions and concerns.

One of the best uses of my time has been to disburse information on topics to allow districts more local control, including information on utilizing Plan B for low income students in counties with high numbers of low SES families that have the “community eligibility option” for free lunch; information about how to offer gifted endorsement courses within districts; gifted education resources and grants and scholarship information; as well as a continuous supply of new articles related to gifted education and information about upcoming events, trainings and conferences.

We presented notice for a workshop on Rule 6A-6.03019, Florida Administrative Code, earlier this year, and we were excited to share the beginning draft of a rule revision that would change the state requirements for identifying gifted students from requiring a 130 I.Q. test score, to allowing for multiple criteria for identification. It was in the beginning stages of a long process of community feedback and revisions and we were eager to hold the first discussion, receive feedback and then to present a second draft soon after the workshop. But things get busy around here with so many other projects going on, and unfortunately we were told that our workshop was cancelled and we are now in wait-and-see mode. There is hope that it will be rescheduled in the future, and the comments that were collected will help with drafting any new document to be presented. Keep your eyes peeled for any updated postings.

We continue to add new information to the FDOE gifted education webpage, so check it out for monthly “News from the Districts”, links to previously recorded webinars with nationally renowned guest speakers, and updated resources and other information. The link to the webpage is: <http://www.fldoe.org/academics/exceptional-student-edu/gifted-edu.stml>.

If you have any questions or comments, please email me at Kathleen.Casper@fldoe.org. See you all at the NAGC conference in Orlando in November!

Kathleen Casper, J.D.
Gifted Education Specialist
Bureau of Standards and Instructional Support
Florida Department of Education
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FLAG's review of Gifted Eligibility Proposed Rule Change

February 2016

Pro's

- This change would bring Florida policies around gifted identification in line with recommendations from national researchers and organizations (e.g., see policy statement from the National Association for Gifted Children)
- Requiring universal screening has been found to increase equity in gifted programs and increase number of students from underrepresented groups.
- Allowing for a variety of assessment methods (standardized assessments, individually administered, portfolios/performance assessments, etc) & stakeholders (gifted experts, school psychologists/counselors, teachers, parents) is considered a best practice in data driven decision making.
- Gifted services will be more widely available for students who have learning disabilities in addition to high levels of ability and for students from non-majority cultural backgrounds

Con's

- Puts a lot of additional work on school staff for the referral and identification process and the increase in money it will take for districts to now purchase critical thinking/divergent thinking tests will stretch an already limited budget.
- This will exponentially increase our gifted population and require our current ESE Specialists and Teachers of the gifted additional work to create all of the new educational plans. This might be a workload issue with our current teachers union.
- The district would have to change its current models to fit the new definition to include students that are only gifted in one particular subject area or the arts and athletics.

Suggestions

1. The current wording only states, "support services" instead of programs. In the past, support services are not funded or the funding is not guaranteed. The language needs to be reconsidered.
2. Include language similar to the "Plan B" to ensure equitable access to gifted program services.
3. Remove the reliance on gifted rating scales as a means to identify students. Research has shown that these types of scales tend to be biased against students from various cultures, students with families of lower educational backgrounds, and with less experienced teachers.
4. Supply a list of approved tests that Districts may use and distinguish which ones may be administered as a group vs. individually.

Questions

1. Will gifted still fall under ESE and be considered an eligibility?
2. Will gifted still have guaranteed funding if it becomes a gifted and talented program that is described as "support services" instead of a program?
3. Are students required to be universally screened every school year or just once?
4. What is the timeline for this change?
5. Are all pieces of eligibility weighted the same?
6. In section (2) under (a)(5) how do we quantify or define "student learning growth well above peers"?
7. In section (3) under (a) it lists verbal, fluid reasoning, nonverbal reasoning, on a standardized test of intelligence. Does it no longer have to be a composite score or are we now looking at partial scores in each area?
8. In section (4) under (2) it states local norms. Does this mean district or school norms?

(Revised, September 2015)

ARTICLE I. NAME AND MISSION

1. The name of this organization shall be the Florida Association for the Gifted, Inc., and shall hereafter be referred to as FLAG.
2. The mission of FLAG is to connect and empower educators and parents who promote and support educationally sound programs for gifted students through awareness, advocacy, and action.

ARTICLE II. MEMBERSHIP

1. FLAG shall consist of the following categories of membership:
 - A. Regular Member
Regular membership in FLAG shall be open to any individual desiring to foster the mission of FLAG.
 - B. Institutional Member
Institutional membership in FLAG shall be open to any school, library, or similar institution which holds an interest in gifted education.
 - C. Student Member
Student membership in FLAG shall be open to any full time college or university student desiring to foster the mission of FLAG.
 - D. Retired Member
Retired membership in FLAG shall be open to any individual who has been a Regular Member in good standing in FLAG for at least five consecutive years prior to retirement.
 - E. Honorary Member
Honorary membership in FLAG shall be granted to individuals who have provided exemplary leadership in the field of gifted education or their service to FLAG at the discretion of the Executive Board.
2. All members with the exception of institutional members shall have the right to vote on FLAG concerns.
3. All officers shall be regular members of FLAG and shall meet the membership requirements specified in Article IV of the Constitution.

ARTICLE III. DUES AND FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Annual dues shall be established for each classification of membership made payable to FLAG, Inc. Membership is effective for one calendar year from the date of receipt of dues.
2. Assessments or changes in annual dues shall be determined by the Executive Board.
3. The Executive Board may assume that a member has resigned if there is a 60 days delinquency in dues payment.
4. An annual budget, recommended by the Treasurer and approved by the Executive Board, shall be established for FLAG annual for the next fiscal year. Fiscal year shall be from January 1 through December 31.

ARTICLE IV. OFFICERS

1. The officers of FLAG shall be the President, the President Elect, the Immediate Past President, the Governance Secretary, and the Treasurer.
2. The initial number of officers of FLAG shall be five (5), which equals the initial number of officers of the FLAG, but such number may be increased or decreased by amendment to these Bylaws, in the manner set forth herein for amendments, but such number shall never be less than three. When the number of officers is so decreased by amendment adopted by the Board of Directors, each officer shall serve until his term expires or until his resignation or removal as herein provided.

(Revised, September 2015)

3. The term of office for all officers shall be for two calendar years beginning on January 1 of the year following the election.
4. The President shall be that member of FLAG who has just completed the term as President Elect. It shall be the duty of the President to preside at all meetings of FLAG, to act as Chairperson of the Executive Board; and to exercise general supervision over the affairs of FLAG; and to be an ex-officio member of all committees except the Nominating Committee.
5. It shall be the duty of the President Elect to function as the President in the latter's absence or incapacity, to serve as Conference Chairperson, and to become President at the close of term of office as President-elect. In case the office of the President is vacated for any reason, the President Elect shall complete that calendar year of the President's term of office as President Pro-tem; and in any such case, shall subsequently serve a full 2-year term of office as President. An election for President Elect shall occur within 60 days in the event of a vacancy.
6. It shall be the duty of the Governance Secretary to maintain official records of actions taken at all meetings records of FLAG and of the Executive Board, to maintain the records of the association, serve as Parliamentarian for all FLAG Board meetings, and to perform other such duties as may be authorized by the president and/or the Executive Board. The Governance Secretary shall be elected in even numbered years.
7. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to receive all monies of FLAG. The Treasurer shall be responsible for the development of FLAG's budget; making recommendations to the Executive Board for changes in dues assessment; the custody of all funds of FLAG; signing checks on behalf of FLAG for disbursement of funds authorized by the Executive Board; keeping records of all receipts and disbursements; providing an annual independent audit, review or compilation (as directed by the Executive Board) as of the end of each fiscal year; providing a review of accounts and investments to the Executive Board at the end of each fiscal year. The Treasurer shall be elected in odd numbered years.
8. If a vacancy arises for any reason, in any of these offices except for the President and President Elect, the Executive Board shall, by a majority vote, elect a successor to fill the vacancy for the remainder of the term of office.
9. Gifted Program Consultant from the Florida Department of Education serves in an Ex-officio capacity. As the State Consultant is an ex-officio, he would abstain from voting and would not hold a concurrent position as FLAG officer.
10. Any officer may resign at any time by giving written notice of such resignation to the remaining officers.
11. Any director or member of a committee shall be deemed present at a meeting of the Executive Board of FLAG or a committee if a conference telephone or similar communication equipment is used, by means of which all persons participating in such meeting can hear each other.

ARTICLE V. EXECUTIVE BOARD

1. There shall be an Executive Board of FLAG consisting of the officers of FLAG, Standing Committee Chairpersons, Regional Coordinators, and the Gifted Program Consultant from the Florida Department of Education.
2. The Executive Board shall have general supervision of the affairs of FLAG.
3. The President of FLAG shall be Chairperson of the Executive Board, and the Governance Secretary of FLAG shall be Secretary of the Executive Board.
4. The Executive Board shall be called for a physical meeting during the period of the Annual Business Meeting. Additional meetings of the Executive Board shall be held on the call of the President or upon petition in writing by ten or more voting members. Any issue may be decided by a mail or telephone or other electronic ballot of the Executive Board, provided that no member of the Executive Board requests that it be referred to a physical meeting.

(Revised, September 2015)

5. All actions of the Executive Board may be published in the FLAG Newsletter for review by the membership. Minutes of the meetings of the Executive Board shall be made available to any member who requests them.
6. A quorum of the Executive Board shall consist of a majority of the Executive Board members. Executive Board members shall receive notice of each meeting at least 30 days in advance. Executive Board meetings shall be open to the membership.

ARTICLE VI. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

1. There shall be an Executive Committee of FLAG consisting of the officers of FLAG. The president shall be the chairperson of the Executive Committee
2. The Executive Committee shall have, and may exercise, the powers of the Executive Board in the interim between Board meetings, except that the Executive Committee shall not have the power to adopt the budget, or to take any action which is contrary to, or a substantial departure from the direction established by the Board, or which represents a major change in the affairs, business, or policies of FLAG. The Executive Committee shall submit report on actions taken to the Board.
3. Meetings of the Executive Committee shall be called by the president. Notice of the time, place, and purpose of the meeting shall be given to each member of the Executive Committee not less than 3 days before the meeting except in case of emergency.
4. A majority of member of the Executive Committee must be present in person or by telephonic or electronic means to constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

ARTICLE VII. NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS

1. Nominations of officers of FLAG shall be made by the Nominating and Elections Committee. Election procedures shall be under the supervision of the Executive Board. Those eligible for nomination are regular members in good standing who meet the membership requirements specified in Article IV of the Constitution.
2. The slate of nominees shall be approved by the Executive Board prior to balloting, and a provision shall be made on the ballot for write-in candidates.
3. Elections shall take place by mail or by electronic means. The chair of the Nominations and Elections Committee shall submit the ballot to the membership at least 30 days prior to the annual business meeting. The ballots shall be counted by the Nominations and Elections Committee prior to the annual business meeting. In case of more than two nominees for one office, the nominee receiving the largest number of votes shall be regarded as elected. If there is only one nominee for an office, that nominee shall be deemed elected to office.

ARTICLE VIII. MEETINGS

1. The place and time of the Annual Conference of FLAG shall be at the discretion of the Executive Board. The purpose of the Annual Conference shall be for the transaction of the business at the Annual Business Meeting, and the presentation of a program on topics concerning gifted children. Notice of the Annual Conference and Annual Business Meeting shall be given to all members at least 30 days prior to the date thereof.
2. A quorum at the Annual Business Meeting shall be defined as at least ten percent of the voting members in good standing.
3. The Conference Committee Chairperson shall render to the Treasurer a formal accounting of all income and expenditures of the Annual Conference of FLAG within 120 days of the completion of the Conference.

(Revised, September 2015)

4. Other conferences and/or business meetings of FLAG may be held at the discretion of the Executive Board, provided that the membership shall receive notification of such meetings.
5. Regional meetings maybe held under the auspices of FLAG under the supervision of a Regional Coordinator with prior approval of the Executive Board. The Regional Coordinator shall render a formal accounting of all income and expenditures within 60 days of such meeting.

ARTICLE IX. REGIONAL COORDINATORS

1. The Executive Board of FLAG shall establish four regions of Florida, each to have a Regional Coordinator to be appointed by the President with the approval of the Executive Board. Regional Directors shall serve a term of two years.
2. The Regional Coordinators of odd-numbered regions shall be appointed in odd-numbered years. Those for even-numbered regions shall be appointed in even-numbered years.
3. In case of a vacancy, the President, with the approval of the Executive Board, shall appoint a new Regional Coordinator to fill the remainder of the term.
4. It shall be the responsibility of each Regional Coordinator to collect and disseminate information within the region, to aid the Membership Chairperson with membership recruitment in the region, and to coordinate professional development activities in the region, as appropriate.

ARTICLE X. COMMITTEES

1. The Standing Committees of FLAG shall be as follows:
 - A. The Conference Committee shall consist of at least three members of FLAG with the President-elect serving as Chairperson. It shall be the function of the Committee to make arrangements for the program and the annual conference of FLAG in accordance with the provisions of Article VII.
 - B. The Advocacy Committee shall consist of at least three members of FLAG. The Chairperson shall be designated by the President with the approval of the Executive Board. It shall be the function of the Advocacy committee to represent the special educational needs of gifted students, including those from typically underrepresented populations and twice-exceptional gifted students. Additionally, it shall be the function of this Committee to influence the Florida Legislature and, when directed by the Executive Board, the US Congress, on issues consistent with the mission of FLAG. This influence may occur through the provision of information or testimony regarding such issues, representing FLAG in legislative coalitions, contracting with a legislative consultant, and serving as liaison between FLAG and the consultant.
 - C. The Public Relations Committee shall consist of at least three members of FLAG. The Chairperson shall be designated by the President with the approval of the Executive Board. It shall be the function of this Committee to solicit, review, and disseminate information pertinent to the field of gifted education through electronic and/or print resources including the FLAG Newsletter and FLAG website. The Committee shall advise and/or coordinate technology applications and requirements for FLAG's meetings and events, as deemed necessary and/or effective.
 - D. The Bylaws Committee shall consist of at least three members of FLAG. The Chairperson shall be designated by the President with the approval of the Executive Board. It shall be the function of this Committee to update and revise the Bylaws as deemed appropriate. Such proposed changes shall be submitted to the President and the Executive Board for ratification. If ten percent (10%) of the voting membership presents proposed changes in writing to either the Chairperson of this Committee or directly to the President, such proposed changes shall be considered by this Committee and presented to the Executive Board for ratification.

(Revised, September 2015)

E. The Nominating and Elections Committee shall consist of a Chairperson and at least two other voting members of FLAG. The Chairperson shall be the Immediate Past President of FLAG. Other members shall be Regional Coordinators. It shall be the function of the Committee to call for nominations for all elected offices from the voting membership, develop a slate of nominees, and to conduct elections.

F. The Education Committee shall consist of a Chairperson and at least two members of FLAG who are engaged in training teachers of the gifted. The Chairperson shall be designated by the President with the approval of the Executive Board. It will be the function of the Education Committee to develop and/or review online training, monitor and review professional standards for gifted educations, review the evaluation of the Annual Conference, and provide input to the President-Elect for planning the theme and program for present and future annual conferences. Through its activities, the committee shall strive to foster sensitivity, understanding and increased knowledge of the special attributes of Florida's diverse gifted population.

G. The Membership Involvement Committee shall consist of at least three members of FLAG including one parent representative, one teacher representative, and one Region Coordinator. The Chairperson shall be designated by the President with the approval of the Executive Board. It shall be the function of this Committee to collaborate with Region Coordinators on innovative solutions to increasing FLAG membership, oversee the FLAG Awards process, including nominations, selection, and presentation, provide assistance to existing gifted support groups, and serve a liaison for FLAG to parents and teachers of gifted students, as well as the others in the community at large.

2. Special Committees may be designated from time to time by the President, with purpose and composition to be proposed by the President to the Executive Board. Approval of each such committee must be gained through a majority vote of the members of the Executive Board prior to the initiation of any functions of such a committee.

ARTICLE XI. AMENDMENTS

1. These Bylaws may be amended by a simple majority vote of the Executive Board of FLAG. The general membership shall be informed of the amendment(s) in writing within 30 days.
2. If the amendment shall result in ten or more written protests or objections to the amendment(s) within a 90 day period of such notification being given, the amendment will be reconsidered and will be placed on the next general ballot for vote by the general membership.

ARTICLE XII. AFFILIATIONS

1. A local Association for the Gifted in Florida having at least 10 members who are members of FLAG wishing to affiliate with FLAG should submit in writing their desire to affiliate with FLAG to the current President of FLAG to be forwarded to the Membership Chairperson for verification of membership status. The Executive Board will then consider the request using the National Association for the Gifted Children affiliation rules as guidelines.
2. If FLAG wishes to affiliate with another organization, the Executive Board will present this to the voting membership. Approval shall be by simple majority of the voting members.

ARTICLE XIII. RULES OF ORDER

1. *Roberts' Rules of Order, Newly Revised* shall be adopted as the official Parliamentary Procedural guidelines for use in all FLAG meetings where applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these Bylaws.

ARTICLE XIV. SEAL

1. The seal of the Corporation shall be retained by the Governance Secretary and include the words, "Florida Association for the Gifted, Inc."

(Revised, September 2015)

ARTICLE XV. PERPETUATION

1. The association shall exist in perpetuation unless otherwise dissolved.
2. Upon dissolution of FLAG, the Executive Board shall see all just debts are paid. Any funds remaining shall be distributed to one or more qualified charitable or educational organizations to be selected by the Executive Board.

ARTICLE XVI. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

1. For purposes of this provision, the term "interest" shall include personal interest, interest as director, officer, member, or beneficiary of any concern and having an immediate family member who holds such an interest in any concern. The term "concern" shall mean any corporation, association, trust, partnership, limited liability entity, firm, person or other entity other than the organization.
2. No director or officer of the organization shall be disqualified from holding any office in the organization by reason of any interest in any concern. A director or officer of the organization shall not be disqualified from dealing, either as vendor, purchaser or otherwise, or contracting or entering into any other transaction with the organization or with any entity of which the organization is an affiliate. No transaction of the organization shall be voidable by reason of the fact that any director or officer of the organization has an interest in the concern with which such transaction is entered into, provided:
 - a. The interest of such officer or director is fully disclosed to the board of directors.
 - b. Such transaction is duly approved by the board of directors not so interested or connected as being in the best interests of the organization.
 - c. Payments to the interested officer or director are reasonable and do not exceed fair market value.
 - d. No interested officer or director may vote or lobby on the matter or be counted in determining the existence of a quorum at the meeting at which such transaction may be authorized.
3. The minutes of meetings at which such votes are taken shall record such disclosure, abstention, and rationale for approval.