

AAGC Slate of Officers: 2018

The AAGC Nominating Committee, chaired by Audrey Fine Peacock, submitted the following as the Slate of Officers for 2018. The Slate was approved by the AAGC Executive Board and will be voted upon by the membership at the AAGC Business Meeting Oct 18, 2018:

President-elect: Shirley Farrell
Vice President: Amy Hill
Secretary: Melanie Thomas
Treasurer: Julie Altmark

Biographical Information on Nominees

Shirley Farrell: Position - President Elect

Shirley Farrell, PhD, has been in gifted education for over 25 years in Alabama. She was a gifted specialist and gifted coordinator for Jefferson County Schools. She then became the Gifted-Education Specialist for the Alabama State Department of Education. Currently, she is the Assistant Professor and Program Coordinator for Gifted Education at Troy University. She has presented gifted education issues at local, state, regional, national, and international meetings and conferences. She received the 2017 Lifetime Achievement Award in Gifted Education from AAGC and continues to advocate for gifted education. She loves exploring technology, birdwatching, gardening, crafts and reading. She proudly calls herself a geeky-nerd or a nerdy-geek!



Amy Hill: Position - Vice President

Amy Griffith Hill is a gifted specialist at Decatur Middle School where she has taught for the past 29 years. She holds a BA and an MA degree from the University of North Alabama and an Ed.S from the University of Alabama. Recently she completed gifted certification at Samford University. Amy is National Board Certified and coaches scholars bowl at both Decatur Middle School and Decatur High School. She is married with two daughters and enjoys antiques, travel, and singing in the church choir.



Melanie Thomas: Position - Secretary

I am originally from Auburn, Alabama, and I graduated from Auburn University. My wonderful husband and I have been married for 14 years. After we got married, we lived in Austin, Texas for 8 years before we moved to Birmingham to be close to family. I have taught for 13 years...10 years in middle school and 3 years in high school. I received a Master's degree in Reading Education from Capella University in 2012, and I graduated from Samford University in 2017 with Master's degree in Gifted Education. Currently, I am pursuing my Education Specialist degree in Educational Leadership as a Teacher Leader at the University of Alabama. I currently work at Calera Middle as the Gifted Resource Teacher for grades 6-8 and serve as the Lead ELA teacher on the Leadership Team. I also serve on the board for the Alabama Association for Middle Level Education. We welcomed our wonderful son, Lee, on September 30, 2015. Along with our slightly fat cat Stormy, we have a wonderful family!!



Julie Altmark: Position – Treasurer

I am serving my fifth year as Treasurer of AAGC. Before becoming Treasurer, I served as Chairperson of the Communications/Public Relations Committee. I am in my 20th year of teaching gifted in Hoover, based at Shades Mountain, also serving Deer Valley and previously Bluff Park. In addition to gifted education, I have 14 years' experience in Information Technology, including 7 years at a prominent Atlanta accounting firm, and more than 4 years as a network administrator, as well as 4 years in my family's restaurant and catering business. My husband and I have lived in Birmingham more than 25 years. We have one son who lives in California.

