

Programs for Highly Capable Students

In order to develop the abilities of each Highly Capable student, the district will offer a highly capable program which provides identified kindergarten through six grade students selected for the program access to basic education program that accelerates learning and enhances instruction.

Definitions

Highly Capable. Highly capable students are those who perform or show potential for performing at significantly advanced academic levels when compared with others of their age, experiences, or environments. Outstanding abilities are seen within students' general intellectual aptitudes, specific academic abilities, and/or creative productivities within a specific domain. These students are present not only in the general populace, but are present within all protected classes.

Learning Characteristics. The terms "learning characteristics" means that students who are highly capable may possess, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Capacity to learn with unusual depth of understanding, to retain what has been learned, and to transfer learning to new situations;
2. Capacity and willingness to deal with increasing levels of abstraction and complexity earlier than their chronological peers;
3. Creative ability to make unusual connections among ideas and concepts;
4. Ability to learn quickly in their area(s) of intellectual strength; and
5. Capacity for intense concentration and/or focus.

Special Teacher. A "special teacher" is a teacher who has training, experience, advanced skills, and knowledge in the education of highly capable students. Areas of competence include knowledge of the following: Identification procedures, academic, social and emotional characteristics, program design and delivery, instructional practices, student assessment, and program evaluation.

Program Design

The board will annually approve the district's highly capable plan including:

- the number of students the district expects to serve by grade level;
- the district's plan to identify students;
- a description of the highly capable program goals;

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- a description of the services the program will offer;
- an instructional program description;
- a description of ongoing professional development for highly capable program and general education staff;
- program evaluation including information on how the district's highly capable program goals and student achievement outcomes will be measured;
- a fiscal report; and
- assurances that the district is legally compliant with all applicable statutes and regulations.

The superintendent will establish procedures consistent with state guidelines for nomination, assessment and selection of children of demonstrated achievement or potential ability in terms of general intellectual ability, academic aptitude and productive thinking.

Legal Reference:	RCW	28A.185.030	Programs – Authority of a local school districts – Selection of students
	WAC	392-170	Special Service Program – Highly Capable Students

Adopted: 08/21/2014