Highly Capable Programs

In order to develop the special abilities of each student, the district will offer a highly capable program that provides kindergarten through twelfth grade students who are selected for the program with access to basic education programs that accelerate learning and enhance instruction. The framework for such programs will encompass, but not be limited to, the following objectives:

A. Expansion of academic attainments and intellectual skills;

B. Stimulation of intellectual curiosity, independence, and responsibility;

C. Development of a positive attitude toward self and others; and

D. Development of originality and creativity.

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; 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 and fiscal report; and assurances that the district is legally compliant.

The superintendent will establish procedures consistent with state guidelines for referral, assessment, and selection of children of demonstrated achievement or potential ability in terms of general intellectual ability, academic aptitude, and creative or productive thinking. These include prioritizing equitable identification of low-income students; use of multiple objective criteria and multiple pathways for identification; use of local norms, unless more restrictive than national norms; use of subjective measures only to support identification; and use of screening and assessment in the student's native language (if available) or nonverbal assessment.

Classification: Essential

Legal References:	RCW 28A.185.030 Programs — Authority of local school districts — Selection of students WAC 392-170 Special service program — Highly capable students
Management Resources:	2018 – August Issue 2013 - September Issue Policy News, April 2008 Highly Capable Programs

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