



**THE WASHINGTON COALITION
FOR GIFTED EDUCATION**

18149 147 Avenue SE
Renton WA 98058

425-271-1357

wagifted@earthlink.net

November 12, 2012

Gayle Pauley, Director
Special Programs and Federal Accountability
PO Box 47200
Olympia WA 98504-7200

Re: Comments on proposed WAC revisions
Highly Capable Programs

Dear Ms. Pauley,

The leadership of WAETAG, NWGCA and the Coalition are concerned about the wording in WAC, section 392-270-012. With Highly Capable Program services an integral part of basic education, basic education funds should be spent on Highly Capable Program services. We are concerned that the proposed wording of the section (may access basic education funds*) can be misunderstood or misinterpreted.

In viewing the wording of this section, it is necessary to remember that in: Sec. 2 (2) of 2776 reads as follows:

The distribution formula under this section shall be for allocation purposes only. Except as may be required under chapter 28A.155, 28A.165, 28A.180, or 28A.185 RCW, or federal laws and regulations, nothing in this section requires school districts to use basic education instructional funds to implement a particular instructional approach or service.

The proposed revision to the WAC is misleading when it says that "districts may access basic education funds and highly capable categorical funds." Since RCW 28A.185 is the section on Highly Capable Programs, it is exempted from this section of the law. Therefore, districts can and should be expected to use basic education funds for Highly Capable Programs.

We suggest that the second sentence of the new section be changed to read:

"School districts may access highly capable categorical funds in addition to basic education funds to provide appropriate highly capable student programs and services".

This will clarify for districts that they are to use basic ed funds for HCP services.

We find all the other proposed revisions to be in line with the RCW 28A.185.

Irene Greve, President
Washington Coalition For Gifted Education

Charlotte Akin, President
Washington Association of Educators of the Talented and Gifted

Marcia Holland, President
Northwest Gifted Child Association

* WAC 392-170-012 Funds. For highly capable students, access to accelerated learning and enhanced instruction is access to a basic education. School districts may access basic education funds and highly capable categorical funds to provide appropriate highly capable student programs and services.