

## Highly Capable Programs

In order to develop the special abilities of each student, the district will offer a highly capable program which provides kindergarten through twelfth grade students who qualify for the program with access to basic education programs that accelerates learning and enhances 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 served by grade level; the district's plan to identify and place students, including universal screening at two grade levels; 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 implementing universal referral, screening, assessment, identification, and placement of highly capable students. These procedures will include prioritizing equitable identification of low-income students; use of multiple objectives criteria and multiple pathways universal screening for identification and placement decisions; use of local norms, unless more restrictive than national norms; and use of screening and assessment in the student's native language (if available) or nonverbal assessment.

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:

2023 - November Issue  
2023 - July Issue  
2018 - August Issue  
2013 - September Issue  
Policy News, April 2008 Highly Capable Programs

**Adoption Date: 04.85**

**Tonasket School District**

**Classification: Essential (if receiving categorical state money)**

**Reviewed: 9/28/11**

**Revised: 12.14.15; 12.11.18; 3.27.24**