

**Highly Capable Nomination Form
Grades 6 & 7**

Peninsula School District offers a specially designed program for students who are designated as highly capable. The program is for students who score in the top two to three percent on a cognitive abilities test and also score in the top percentages on an academic achievement test like the MSP or the Iowa Test of Basic Skills. Anyone can nominate a child to be tested for inclusion in our program by filling in this form; however, parent/guardian permission to test is required. Sometimes it is difficult to differentiate between a highly capable student and a high achieving student. The differences between the two groups are outlined on the back of this form to help guide your nomination decision. **Please return this form to your child's school main office.**

Student's Name: _____ Grade: _____ School: _____

Teacher's Name: _____ Nominated by: _____ Relation to student: _____

What have you observed in this child's behavior that leads you to believe that he/she would benefit from participation in a special program for high capable students?

Parent Permission Form

Students will be assessed using the Cognitive Abilities Test. The results of an academic achievement test such as the MSP or ITBS will also be used as part of the identification process.

I give permission for my child to be evaluated for the *Highly Capable Program* and to have appropriate tests administered, if needed. You will be notified of the testing dates at a later time.

Student Name _____

Parent Name (please print): _____

Telephone (daytime): _____ Email: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

CogAt scores will be mailed home within two weeks of testing. Students that do not qualify for the program may have their results appealed. An appeals form should be filed within two weeks of receipt of your child's results. The appeals will be reviewed by the district's multi-disciplinary team.

Students identified for the Highly Capable Program will be clustered within a heterogeneous classroom for Language Arts or Language Arts/Socials Studies. Students are placed in a math class appropriate to their level.

Typical Characteristics of Gifted Children

- Unusually large vocabulary for their age
- Ability to read earlier than most children, often before entering school
- Greater comprehension of the subtleties of language
- Longer attention span, persistence and intense concentration
- Ability to learn basic skills more quickly and with less practice
- Wide range of interests
- Highly developed curiosity and a limitless supply of questions
- Interest in experimenting and doing things differently
- Tendency to put ideas or things together in ways that are unusual and not obvious (divergent thinking)
- Unusual sense of humor

Webb, Meckstroch, and Tolan, *Guiding the Gifted Child*

Gifted or High Achievers?

| High Achievers | Gifted Students |
|----------------------|--|
| Know the answers | Ask the questions |
| Are interested | Are curious |
| Have good ideas | May have wild or unexpected ideas |
| Understand ideas | Construct abstracts |
| Complete assignments | Initiate projects |
| Enjoy School | Enjoy Learning |
| Are technicians | Are inventors |
| Grasp Meaning | Draw inferences |
| Enjoy peers | Prefer adults |
| Learns with ease | Already know |
| Listen with interest | Demonstrate strong feelings and opinions |
| Absorb information | Manipulate information |
| Copy accurately | Create new designs |
| Are receptive | Are critical |