



Lake Washington

School District

Highly Capable  
Program Services  
Family Presentation



# Highly Capable Program Services

# Mission

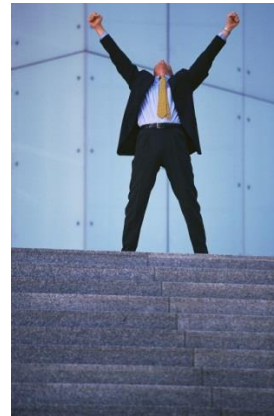
Each student will  
**graduate**  
prepared to  
lead a rewarding  
responsible life  
as a contributing  
member of our  
community and  
greater society



# Vision

## Every Student Future Ready:

*Prepared for College*  
*Prepared for the Global  
Workplace*  
*Prepared for Personal  
Success*



From the Boardroom to the classroom, Lake Washington School District is committed to the values that shape our culture.



## Our Values

### **Focus on Students**

To prepare our students we believe that all students must have opportunities to learn a rich curriculum in inclusive classrooms.

### **Focus on Learning**

To continue growing as an organization, everyone must have access to learning opportunities that encourage ongoing growth and development.

### **Focus on Connections**

To engage our community, our district must be focused on strong partnerships, outstanding service, and clear communication.

### **Focus on Results**

To be the best school district in the world, we are committed to high quality implementation of practices that produce positive change and sustainable transformation.



# We elevate everyone and everything in Lake Washington as we focus on:



## **SUCCESS**

We set high expectations and provide support to help students and staff grow every year.

## **WELL-BEING**

We create safe, welcoming, and inclusive places to learn for students and staff.

## **ENGAGEMENT**

We engage students, families, and community partners to improve student outcomes and build trust.

## **EXCELLENCE**

We ensure organizational responsibility through the effective use of resources and systems that align with district values and strategic priorities.

## **INNOVATION**

We encourage new ideas that embrace creativity and reimagine teaching and learning.

## **EQUITY**

We increase equitable outcomes by addressing barriers to engagement and success.



- What is highly capable education?
- What are the characteristics of highly capable learners?
- LWSD's highly capable services
- Referral, Screening, & Identification Process for LWSD
- Frequently asked questions
- GEAC



Lake Washington  
School District

# Highly Capable Learners





# LWSD Highly Capable Program is Governed by Laws



## Definition of Highly Capable Students:

Highly capable students are students who perform or show potential for performing at significantly advanced academic levels when compared with others of their age, experiences, or environments.

## Washington State Legislature:

The legislature finds that, for highly capable students, access to accelerated learning and enhanced instruction is access to a basic education.

# Bright Child vs. Gifted Child

## Bright Child

Knows the answers

Has good ideas

Works hard

Learns with ease

Understands ideas

Listens with interest

## Gifted Child

Asks the questions

Has wild, silly ideas

Plays around, yet tests well

Already knows

Constructs abstractions

Shows strong feelings and opinions

# Bright Child vs. Gifted Child

## Bright Child

6-8 repetitions for mastery  
Is in the top group  
Grasps the meaning  
Completes assignments  
Absorbs information

## Gifted Child

1-2 repetitions for mastery  
Beyond the group  
Draws inferences  
Initiates projects  
Manipulates information



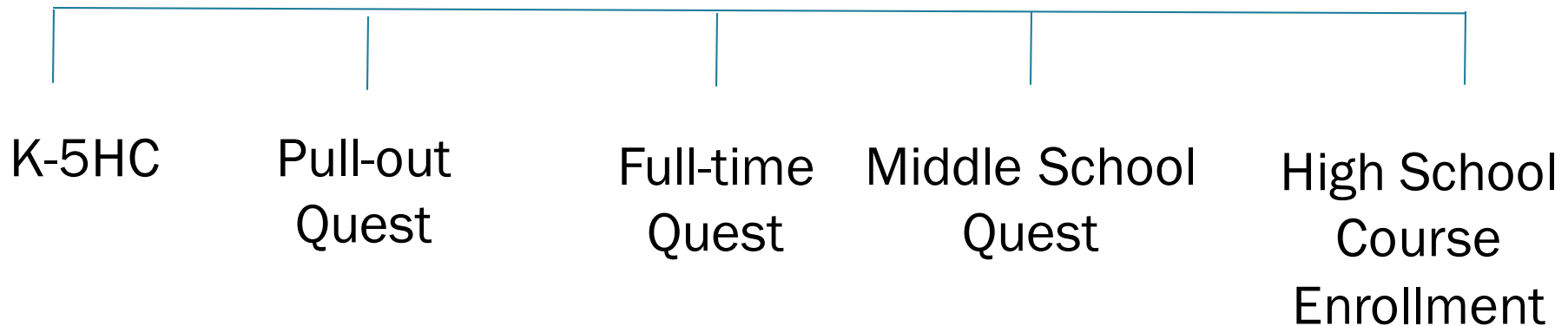
# LWSD's Highly Capable Tiers of Services

# Accelerated Programs Umbrella

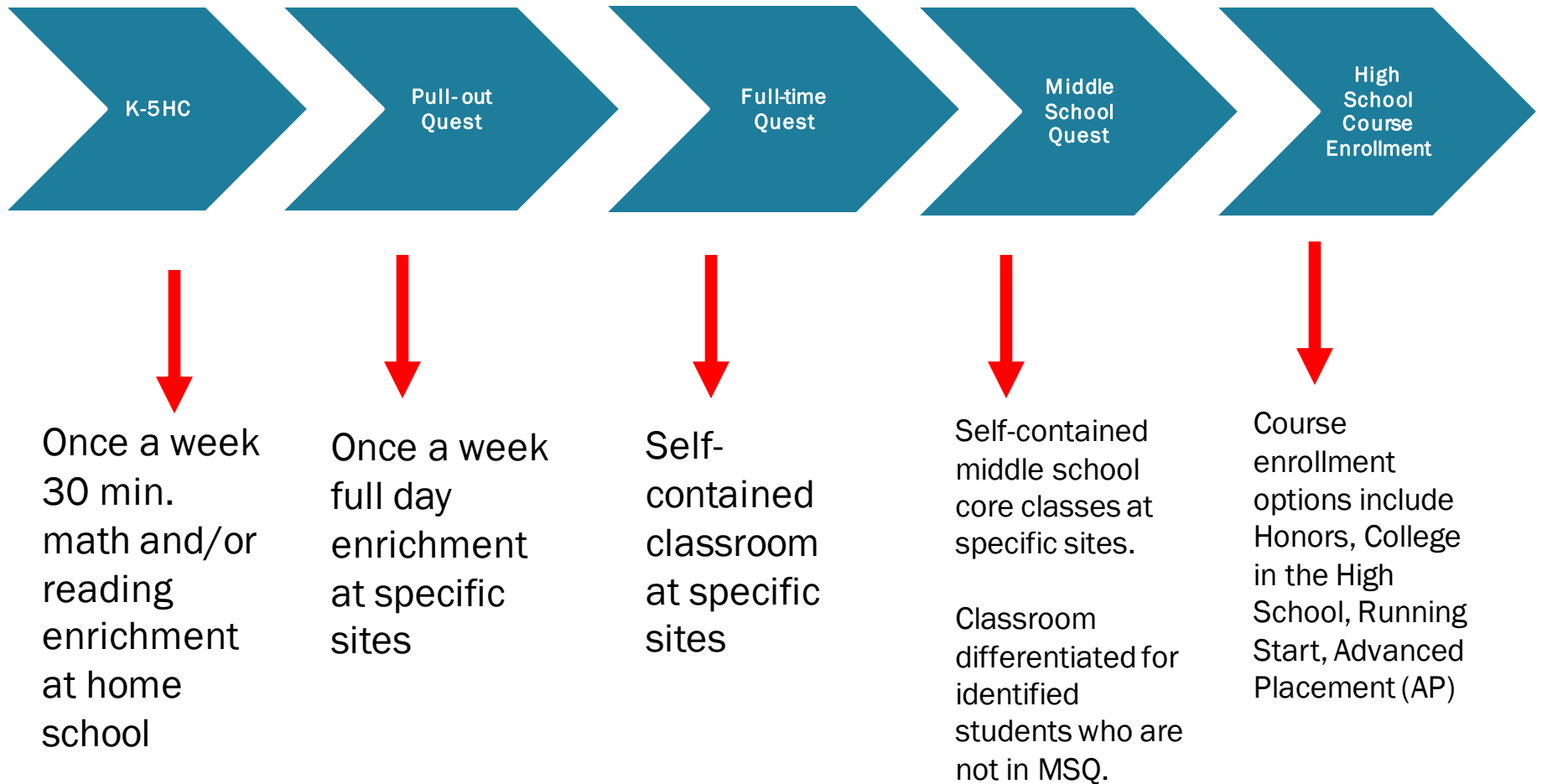
## Accelerated Programs



## Highly Capable



# K-12 Highly Capable Continuum of Services



# K-5HC Program

- LWSD's tier of service for K and 1<sup>st</sup> grade students is K-5HC
- Identified students are provided services at their home school
- Students receive small-group enrichment in identified area with a K-5HC Teacher Facilitator
  - 30 minutes of instruction per identified area
    - Reading and/or math



# K-5HC Program

- Enrichment units based on [NAGC \(National Association of Gifted Children\) standards](#)
- Kindergarten services begin in the second half of the school year, typically early spring
- Students remain in K-5HC through 5<sup>th</sup> grade unless qualifying for another level of service (FTQ, POQ)

# Pull-out Quest Program (POQ)

- 2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade students who qualify
- Students are provided services at identified elementary schools
  - Current locations: *McAuliffe, Thoreau, Dickinson, Wilder*
- Students receive services one day a week
- Enrichment units based on [NAGC \(National Association of Gifted Children\) standards](#)
- Students remain in POQ through 5<sup>th</sup> grade unless qualifying for another level of service (FTQ)

# Full-time Quest Program (FTQ)



- 2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade students who qualify
- Students are provided services at identified elementary schools
  - Current locations: *Alcott, Baker, Barton, Bell, Blackwell, Einstein, McAuliffe, Redmond, Rosa Parks, Smith, Thoreau*
- Services are provided in multi-grade, self-contained classrooms
- Students receive acceleration in math and reading, at least one grade level above assigned grade
- Students receive differentiated instruction in grade level standards for social studies, science, and writing

# Middle School Quest Program (MSQ)



- 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grade students who qualify
- Students are provided services at identified middle schools
  - Current locations: *Evergreen, Kamiakin, Redmond, Timberline*
- Services are provided in self-contained classrooms:
  - 6<sup>th</sup> grade: language arts, social studies, science, math
  - 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> grade: language arts, social studies, science
- Students receive differentiated instruction in grade level standards for social studies, science, and writing.



Lake Washington

School District

# LWSD's Highly Capable Identification and Placement

## Multiple Objective Criteria:

- Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT) Screening Form
- Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT) Full (Post) Form
- Iowa Assessments
- FastBridge Reading and Math
- Renzulli Scales
- WaKIDS (Washington Kindergarten Inventory of Developing Skills)

- MSC includes, at a minimum, a psychologist, a department administrator and a teacher
- The MSC determines screening and eligibility decisions based on a body of evidence (or multiple objectives) for each applicant

# Placement Process for K-5HC



- Students who meet the acceptance criteria will be offered K-5HC services
- Services are provided in the student's LWSD home school
- Anticipated start dates:
  - Kindergarten will begin Spring 2021
  - Newly qualifying 1<sup>st</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> will begin at the beginning of the next school year (2021-2022)
- K-5HC services continue through the end of 5<sup>th</sup> grade unless the student becomes eligible for POQ or FTQ



# 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Universal Screening Requirement

- All LWSD 1<sup>st</sup> grade students will participate in universal screening for highly capable services including students identified as highly capable in kindergarten.
- Services for 1<sup>st</sup> grade students that qualify will begin in the fall of the following year.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> grade students may qualify for:
  - K-5HC
  - Pull-out Quest
  - Full-time Quest



Lake Washington

School District

# Frequently Asked Questions

Accelerated Programs Staff

# Frequently Asked Questions

- How does Accelerated Programs communicate with families?
  - *All communication will be emailed to families from the LWSD Accelerated Programs Department.*
    - *Schedules for assessments*
    - *Screening results*
    - *Eligibility results*
- What if my child gets sick or we have a family emergency and cannot take the assessment?
  - *If your child is ill or your family experienced an emergency on the day of the assessment, please email [quest@lwsd.org](mailto:quest@lwsd.org) before the test begins.*
  - *Students with a documented family emergency or illness are provided **one** make-up date set by the district.*

# Frequently Asked Questions

- I had my child privately tested. Can I submit these results with my application?
  - *LWSD does not accept private testing results in place of or in addition to district assessment results. Accepting private evaluations creates potential inequity based on the ability of parents to pay for a private evaluation. Instead students participate in the district assessment process at no cost.*
- I had previous teachers write letters of recommendation. Can I submit these with the application?
  - *Letters of recommendation are not a part of the body of evidence reviewed by the Multi-Disciplinary Selection Committee (MSC).*
  - *Per Washington State Law, letters of recommendation may not be used determine student eligibility.*

# Frequently Asked Questions

- Should my child study or “prep” for assessments?
  - *For a true body of evidence, we do not recommend or endorse “prepping” students for assessments.*
- If I live outside of LWSD, can I still apply?
  - *Students must reside within the Lake Washington School District at the time of application to be eligible for highly capable services.*
  - *Students must remain residents of the district to continue to receive services.*

# Frequently Asked Questions

- What if my child has an IEP or 504 plan?
  - *If your child has a current Individual Education Plan (IEP) or 504 plan, please make note of that on your application.*
  - *Accommodations documented on IEP and 504 plans are provided during the assessment process.*
- How many times can my child be nominated or apply?
  - *Students can be nominated/apply for highly capable services each year.*

# Frequently Asked Questions

- Can I observe a highly capable group or classroom?
  - *We are unable to schedule classroom observations as part of the application process. With high interest in programs, this would create a distraction to the learning environment.*
- What if my child becomes eligible for service, but we are not sure whether we want to participate?
  - *We are here to work with families. Our office staff, instructional specialist, and department psychologist frequently talk with families regarding program participation decisions.*

# Frequently Asked Questions

- My child is in private school. What should we do?
- *Students residing in LWSD and attending private schools may apply for and receive highly capable services.*
  - *Complete the online application and submit proof of residency and age during the open application period.*
  - *Qualifying private school students would attend services at their assigned LWSD school.*



# Frequently Asked Questions

- If my child becomes eligible for service, how will we know the time/location of services?
  - *Students who become eligible for services will receive information directly from the LWSD Accelerated Programs Department.*
- If my child is in K-5HC or POQ and we decide to apply for FTQ and he/she does worse on the assessments, will he/she be removed from the current program?
  - *No; once a student becomes eligible for and participates in a highly capable program, they remain eligible for that program unless they decline services or become eligible for and participate in a different highly capable program.*

# Frequently Asked Questions

- I still have some questions, what do I do?
  - *Most questions can be answered by visiting our [website](#):*

LWSD → Programs and Services →  
Accelerated Programs

- *If you have a question unique to your child, please email [quest@lwsd.org](mailto:quest@lwsd.org) or call our office at (425) 936-1238.*

# Frequently Asked Questions

- How can I connect with families familiar with the program?
  - *The Gifted Education Advisory Council (GEAC) is a good source of information about Highly Capable programs from the perspective of families.*



Lake Washington

School District

**Thank you for your interest in  
highly capable programs!**

# Welcome to the Highly Capable Program Information meeting!



# GEAC *What is GEAC?*

- ***Gifted Education Advisory Council***
- Like a PTA for LWSD highly capable community
- Non-profit, founded in 1989
- *Our operating budget is funded 100% by annual donations and corporate matching.*



# GEAC *Who we are...*

- Primarily current or past Quest or other Highly Capable program families.
- Educators and other community members are welcome and encouraged to join.
- All are volunteers.



# Sign up for our mailing list on [www.lwsdgeac.org](http://www.lwsdgeac.org)

## **Welcome to the LWSD GEAC Website!**

To learn more about gifted education in the Lake Washington School District (LWSD) and how GEAC and its members support the LWSD highly capable community, please read through our website and feel free to join us at any of our monthly general meetings listed below.

**Don't be left out! To subscribe to GEAC's email newsletter click [here](#).**





# Sign up for our FB page



# GEAC - Mission

- *Our Mission:*

*To support the **unique needs** of highly capable students enrolled in the Lake Washington School District.*





# GEAC - Mission

## Outreach:

**Connecting** families and encouraging **communication** and understanding between the highly capable learning community and others.



# GEAC - Mission

## Enrichment:

Supporting highly capable student learning in the classroom by **providing grants** for curriculum resources, excursions, and professional development for staff.



# GEAC *Enrichment - Grants*

- Support student learning in the classroom through grants
- Including, but not limited to:
  - curriculum resources (eg, books, science materials)
  - Excursions (field trips)
  - professional development for staff (eg, conferences)



# GEAC - Mission

## Education:

Providing **EDUCATION AND SUPPORT** opportunities for parents, students, and educators in the highly capable community.

There's a lot to learn about gifted kids' social and emotional development!



# GEAC - Mission

Advocacy:

**ADVOCATING** for the needs of highly capable students in a variety of areas.





# GEAC *To help support these efforts – Please Join/Donate Now!*

*Paper forms available tonight*

*Or online at [lwsdgeac.org](http://lwsdgeac.org)*



To donate to GEAC  
(WITHOUT completing a  
membership form), click on  
the **Donate** button below.

If you would like to complete a  
membership form as well as make a  
donation, please go the Join/Donate  
page under the Support GEAC menu  
INSTEAD OF clicking the button  
below.

**Donate**

*Donations are tax-deductible*

*Company matching is approximately **40%** of our total donations  
Please submit a request if your company matches*

# Opportunities to volunteer –

Contact GEAC President ([president@lwsdgeac.org](mailto:president@lwsdgeac.org)) for more information

- Board members at large
- Volunteer at our math festival
- Follow our newsletter for more opportunities



# GEAC - Thank you

- We look forward to seeing you again soon!

