



Accelerated Programs, Resource Center
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November 14, 2012

Dear Parent or Guardian of a First Grade Student:

This December, the Lake Washington School District will screen our first grade students to identify candidates for nomination to the Quest Program. The program provides either full time accelerated classes or pull out educational services to students who have very high intellectual capacity and who excel in academic subjects.

We know intellectually advanced students can be found in all cultural and economic groups in our community. We are providing this screening to be sure we identify every one of them. We want to be sure you are fully informed about the screening so you can decide if it is right for your child.

We will be using the Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT) Screening Form. The assessment takes less than one hour and will be given by the first grade teachers at your child's school during the first two weeks of December. (Check your school's website and newsletters in late November for the dates the CogAT will be given at your school.) If your child has an IEP or 504 plan, teachers will follow the instructions on that plan regarding testing, including any modifications or accommodation from the plan.

No child needs any special preparation for this screening. If you would like more information on the CogAT Screening form, you can see a sample of test questions on our website at www.lwsd.org/quest. If you wish more information about the Quest program, please visit our website at www.lwsd.org/quest or contact us by email at Quest@lwsd.org. If you decide taking the CogAT is not right for your child, simply let your child's teacher know you do not wish to have your child participate in the screening.

In January, after we have finished our screening process, parents of students who appear likely to meet the very high intellectual capacity of the Quest program will be contacted by the Quest office. At that point, parents of identified students will be asked if they wish to fill out an application for Quest to allow us to do testing in early February.

Please email the Quest Office at Quest@lwsd.org with any questions you have about the CogAT screening or about Quest programs or visit our Quest Facebook page (www.facebook.com/LWSDQuest) for updates about the Quest program.

Sincerely,

Dan Phelan
Director of Accelerated Programs
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