

Hi:

I am writing in support of funding TAG services to students in PPS as outlined in House Bill 2419 and summarized by OATAG as follows:

- For each year in 2017-19, the bill allocates \$250 per identified TAG student in districts with 75 or more TAG students and \$300 per TAG student in districts with fewer than 75 identified TAG students.
- in 2019-21 the bill allocates \$375 per TAG student each year
- in 2021-023 and thereafter the bill allocates \$500 per TAG student per year.

As the parent of a TAG identified student who received very minimal services from the time he was identified in 1st grade through middle school (he is now in HS at Jefferson), I know first hand that this system is broken. If we fund these students, perhaps they will get the extra help they need to stay engaged in school and to thrive. I saw my son lose interest over time because he was bored. I saw his grades plummet. I had to find ways to get him into programs that would engage him and I had to pay for these expenses out of pocket with a salary that barely made general living expenses possible. I even [testified in front of the board to ask them to hold PPS accountable](#) (see link). Nothing happened during his time in elementary and middle school from TAG at PPS.

Now that he is in HS and TAG services are truly non-existent, I am thankful that Jefferson seems to be engaging for him. The prospect of the Middle College as well as his creative and resourceful teachers are keeping him on his toes and curious.

I say this just to let you know that my son missed out on services he deserved and he lost some educational interest and time because of it. I don't want other kids in PPS that are TAG identified to lose out as well. Please fund this bill so other students in Portland are able to thrive and reach their educational goals.

Best,
Melanie Moseley
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