

In the public education setting children are entitled to have a FAPE. School is required to be Fair and appropriate for all kids. Gifted students have rights. The TAG program is the tool we have to ensure that our children are getting FAPE. I have a second grade student who is a gifted in language, intellectuality, and reads at the 6th grade level. He is not getting his needs met in his general education classroom. He has not been tested for TAG. I also have a 22 year old who is a gifted person, identified as TAG in second grade. He was in a cohort with several TAG students and even though he was not identified in mathematics he was placed in a math group with the other TAG kids which gave him the stimulation he needed. The TAG group was facilitated by his 2nd grade teacher. Each year his teachers would differentiate as much as possible and satisfy FAPE for him. Until he reached Middle school and High school and then the teachers were not able to provide differentiated or accelerated groups. My 22 year old barely graduated from High school. TAG students need to be identified and supported and given the best learning environment for him. I want my youngest son to have the a better experience and greater opportunities for success than my 22 year old had. The system is broken and we need to figure out where and how to fix it.