

I am fully in support of this bill which brings more transparency to the parents of TAG students. My daughter maybe graduating this year, but as a school volunteer I see so many students and parents who lack understanding of their students rights.

I also have some understanding of how the teachers feel when dealing with the unique "highly intelligent" TAG students. We have dealt with teachers who do not want the burden of a gifted student to those who apologize profusely for their inability to teach the class at my daughters level. I feel strongly that the districts need to be more open of their responsibilities and also more supportive of the staff.

We knew enough to argue with the counselors we dealt with to get the best education possible for a public school, but so many parents do not know how to fight to get their student into higher level classes, or that it is available. I was able to find the TAG director for Hillsboro when I directly contacted the superintendent of the district about the availability of classes. Most parents do not even know they can contact anyone outside their school.

Take the situation we dealt with freshman year. First day of school the teacher tells my daughter that she doesn't have freshman in her statistics class, she made things as hard as possible for us up to and including not giving us a copy of the midterm exam. We had to escalate that through the vice principal up to the appropriate person at district before we got the situation resolved. In the end the school decided that the best solution for my daughter was to put her into early college as soon as she turned 16. Best decision for her due to the level of classes available at her school, but we were only given this opportunity because we were looking into skipping her a grade to move her into the Beaverton program when she turned 16 and had started the process already when Hillsboro started their trial program.

Better TAG visibility is a win for students and teachers alike.