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#2635

-----Original Message-----

From: DAVID ANTALL [mailto:antall93@msn.com]

Sent: Tuesday, March 18, 2008 9:04 AM

To: musto@pasenate.com; jbuckheit@state.pa.us; lbaker@pasen.gov; jrhoades@pasen.gov

Subject: Proposed Changes to Chapter 16

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INDEPENDENT REGULATORY  
REVIEW COMMISSION

Mr. Buckheit, State Senator Baker, State Representative Yudichak and Senator Musto;

I am writing to again on behalf of the WVW PAGE affiliate to voice my concerns about the proposed changes in Chapter 16 Regulations regarding Gifted Children in Pennsylvania. Our children attend the Wyoming Valley West School District. I am asking that you attend the Wednesday/Thursday March 19-20 meetings in Harrisburg to express our concerns for the vote on the final-form regulations for Chapter 16.

The following details our viewpoint:

1. Class Size (16.41) should be limited to 20 students. The gifted

elementary program at WVW (Grades 1-5) is a magnet school with a full-day program with 100+ students. Since meeting the needs of gifted students requires an individualized plan, an increase to 25 would be detrimental to the gifted program in my district as a whole and to the individual students in the program.

2. Compliance Monitoring: We support compliance monitoring and believe that a process should be put in place that allows parents to address concerns. There should also be a process by which parental complaints can be filed and investigated by the PDE.

3. We support the Case Load (16.41) being limited to 60 students. This should be the maximum allowed on a full-time gifted teacher's roster.

In summary, We are asking that these comments be presented to the State Board of Education, the Senate Education Committee and any others involved in the proposed changes to Chapter 16. We also urge you to make decisions that are in the best interest of the students.

I look forward to your response of the above concerns.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Antall  
664 Tioga Ave