

#2635

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

From: Wood, Edward [mailto:EWood@parentenet.com]

Sent: Tuesday, March 18, 2008 8:53 AM

To: musto@pasenate.com; jrbuckheit@state.pa.us; lbaker@pasen.gov; jrhookes@pasen.gov

Subject: Chapter 16 Regulations regarding Gifted Children in Pennsylvania

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2008 MAR 19 AM 9:25

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

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

I am writing on behalf of the WWV PAGE affiliate to voice our concerns about the proposed changes in Chapter 16 Regulations regarding Gifted Children in Pennsylvania. Our 2 children attend the Wyoming Valley West School District and both participate in the gifted program. We 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 WWV (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 our district and to all 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

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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 our children (the all students who participate in these programs).

I will look forward to your response.

Ned Wood

Concerned Father

93 James Street

Kingston, PA 18704

Telephone: 570-283-0274

Cell: 570-262-8125

ewood@parentenet.com