

#1 – Erin Linton

As I reviewed the budget in detail, I read the line on the first page that says "The proposed budget reflects the District priorities and goals, focusing on a high level of academic achievement and support for all students."

On page 27 of the budget it indicates that between all three schools in our school district kids that are higher achievers or considered TAG they get a total of \$8,100. Last year, \$14,091. This is mostly for supplies and materials. Special education on the other hand (pages 27-29) receives a total of \$1,637,348. This is not providing support for ALL students. TAG is most important in the 3-5 grade levels when there are not different classes available for them to excel. After some explanation I understand that there is more federal money available for the special education programs, however I do feel that we could allocate more funds to the TAG program and let ALL students find their potential and continue to love school.

One question that might be raised is: How many students in our district are considered TAG? Well that is a good question. Students are no longer being tested for TAG because there is no reason. There is no exact number for this, and there should be so the budget would reflect how many students' needs could be met. As it stands, it looks like our district has no students that are high achievers and that is not true.

Thank you for your time in considering increasing the funds allocated to a TAG program in our district that is so desperately needed.

Sincerely,

Erin Linton