



# PORT TOWNSEND

## School District

LEARNING THROUGH A SENSE OF PLACE

**Superintendent**  
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### Board Report Highly Capable Services 2020-21 March 4, 2021

#### Goals for the District Highly Capable Services:

- ❖ To maintain a high level of engagement in education programming K-12.
- ❖ Equitable identification of students.
- ❖ To develop personal competence leading to exceptional academic achievement.
- ❖ To develop social competence manifested in positive peer relationships and leadership skills.
- ❖ To demonstrate advanced and complex learning in their area(s) of strength

#### Identifying Highly Capable Students

Port Townsend School District uses Washington State Definition of Highly Capable from WAC 392-170-036

Highly Capable includes students who--

- ❖ Learn with unusual depth of understanding
- ❖ Have capacity for increasing levels of abstraction
- ❖ Have creative ability to make unusual conceptual connections
- ❖ Learn quickly in their area of strength
- ❖ Have capacity for intense concentration and/or focus

#### Referral Process

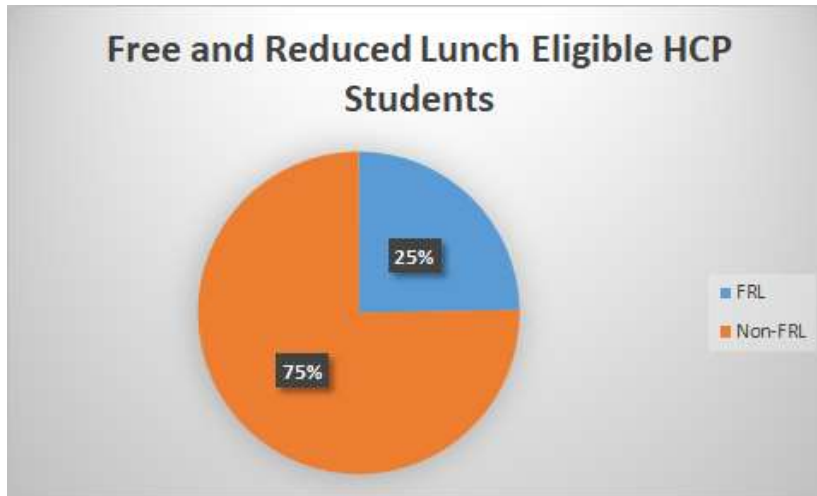
HCP Referral window- January through March 31st.

- Any member of the community can refer a student.
- Grade 2 Screening- CogAT Screener to identify potential students for the program, thereby promoting equity of access.
  - Those scoring above 85% are referred for further testing and evaluation for qualification
- Referred students take the complete CogAT (measures verbal, numerical, and spatial reasoning)
- HCP Multi-disciplinary Selection Team meets in June to review referred students files
- Multiple objective criteria are used in the qualifying decision, subjective criteria are used only to support qualification, never to disqualify
- Families are notified regarding the eligibility of students for HCP services.

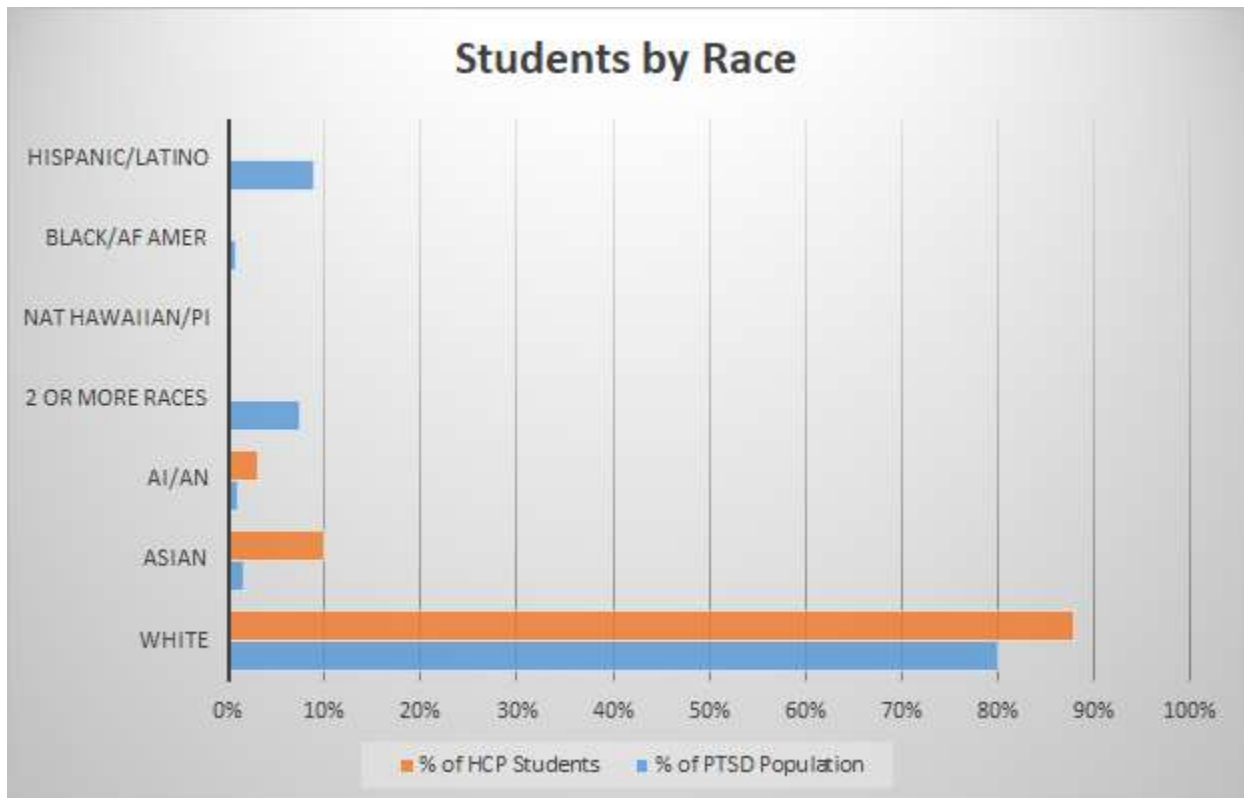
**Enrollment by Grade of 2019-20 HCP Students**

Grade	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Total
Identified HCP Students	0	0	4	3	4	9	4	8	19	14	8	7	80
Percent of Total Enrollment	0	0	6.3%	3.9%	4.5%	10.5%	4.2%	9.8%	18%	10.3%	9.1%	7.8%	7.2%

## Equity of Access to HCP Services

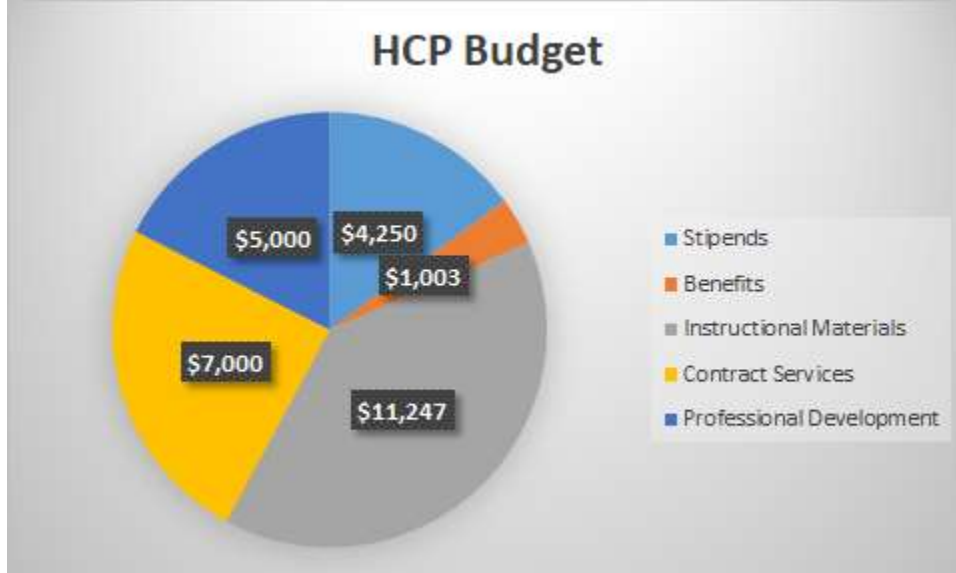


We want to continue to ensure poverty is not a factor limiting HCP identification for students. Additional measures may need to be taken to ensure equitable identification of students across income levels. This is a 2% increase from last year in identified students who are eligible for free or reduced lunch.



The percentage of non-white students identified as highly capable may be underrepresented in our district. Additional measures should be taken to identify students with diverse backgrounds for HCP services. This would include additional communication to all families, training for staff in recognizing giftedness in diverse populations and strategies for assisting families with referral paperwork. This is a 4% increase in non-white qualifying students from last year.

## Budget



The HCP service budget is \$28,500 for the 2020-21 school year. Actual expenditures will vary depending, for example, upon the number of staff who attend training and the actual costs of instructional materials purchased.

### Highly Capable Services Priorities

Services for HCP students in Port Townsend Schools are delivered in the general education classroom (see Highly Capable Service Plan for more information). Priorities for the district include ongoing professional development for teachers to increase their expertise in serving HCP identified students.

#### Professional Development

- Spring 2021 Richard Cash, Differentiation for Gifted Learners teacher workshop series
- Winter 2021, Whitworth Gifted Institute
- Winter 2021, Differentiation for Highly Capable Learners workshops

#### Successes this year:

- ALPs completed for all students with virtual meetings
- Convening a Highly Capable Services Study group examining equitable identification practices
- Continued professional learning in a virtual setting
- Have multiple objective criteria (STAR and FAST Bridge) for all referred students

#### COVID-19 Impacts

- We were unable to complete the 2nd grade screener in spring 2020. The class of 2030 will need an additional screening process this school year.
- Our spring 2020 referral process is being completed this month (a nine month delay).
- Still determining the process for 2nd grade screening this school year for the class of 2031.

**Port Townsend School District**  
Highly Capable Math Service Plan

**Continuum of Services:** Students identified for services in mathematics have a variety of curricular opportunities for advanced learning through differentiation, and acceleration. Accelerated courses are offered in math starting at the middle school level, and ELA in high school. In addition, electives offer opportunities for extended learning. There is no special program offered only for identified highly capable students, instead services are provided in the core classes.

**Advanced Learning Plan:** Building counselor will meet during the year with the families of each student who is identified as highly capable to revise the Advanced Learning Plan, to review schedules and options for classes.

	Access to Core Curriculum	Advanced Math progression	Electives and other offerings
<b>K-5th grade</b>	MDS Place Based Learning Bridges Math	Differentiation, curriculum compacting, open ended problems, independent projects	Code.org, Robotics Art and Music
<b>6th grade</b>	MDS Place Based Learning Carnegie Math	6th Grade Math highly capable/advanced cluster	STEAM Academic Success Highly Capable Cluster Art and Music
<b>7<sup>th</sup> grade</b>		7 <sup>th</sup> grade Accelerated Math	
<b>8<sup>th</sup> grade</b>		Algebra 1	
<b>9<sup>th</sup> grade</b>		Geometry	CTE Courses: Maritime Manufacturing, Robotics Advanced Science Courses: Algebra based Physics Art and Music
<b>10<sup>th</sup> grade</b>	Algebra 2		
<b>11<sup>th</sup> grade</b>	Pre-Calculus		
<b>12<sup>th</sup> grade</b>	MDS Place Based Projects Adopted Math Texts	AP Calculus or Stats Or Running Start Math	

## Highly Capable ELA Service Plan

	<b>Access to Core Curriculum</b>	<b>Advanced ELA progression</b>	<b>Electives and other offerings</b>
<b>K-5th grade</b>	ELA Core  MDS Place Based Projects	Differentiation, curriculum compacting, open ended problems, independent projects	Art and Music
<b>6th grade</b>		ELA highly capable/ advanced cluster	Creative Writing Publications
<b>7<sup>th</sup> grade</b>			Academic Success Highly Capable Cluster
<b>8<sup>th</sup> grade</b>			Art and Music
<b>9<sup>th</sup> grade</b>		Honors English 9	Publications  Art and Music
<b>10<sup>th</sup> grade</b>		Honors English 10	
<b>11<sup>th</sup> grade</b>		AP Literature  AP Language and Composition  Or  Running Start	
<b>12<sup>th</sup> grade</b>			