

October 11, 2007

Mrs. Stephanie Karl, President  
Upper Saddle River Board of Education  
395 West Saddle River Road  
Upper Saddle River, NJ 07458

Dear Mrs. Karl,

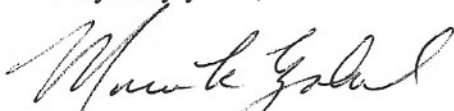
I am the parent of three children enrolled in the Upper Saddle River School District and write with regard to the policy and programs in this District for gifted and talented pupils.

On June 1, 2005, the State Board of Education readopted with amendments N.J.A.C. 6A:8, requiring all public schools to have a board-approved gifted and talented policy and program. Included in the statute is the requirement that gifted and talented students be identified starting in kindergarten and be provided with appropriate educational services starting in kindergarten. The district board of education is responsible for developing "appropriate curricular and instructional modifications used for gifted and talented students indicating content, process, products, and learning environment." In addition, the statute requires that district boards of education consider "the Pre-K – Grade 12 Gifted Program Standards of the National Association for Gifted Children in developing programs for gifted and talented students."

For almost a year now, a group of concerned parents, including myself, have been meeting with Dr. Joyce Snider regarding this statute and the issue of educational services for gifted and talented students in our District. We have recently been informed that Dr. Snider is no longer able to meet with us given other time constraints in her schedule.

I enclose for your review a copy of N.J.A.C. 6A:8-3.1 and the Pre-K – Grade 12 Gifted Program Standards of the National Association for Gifted Children. I bring this issue to the Board's attention with the hope that it will provide Dr. Snider with the necessary resources to create a policy and program to meet the requirements of the current statute.

Very truly yours,



Miriam R. Bakal

cc w/enclosures:

Mr. Peter Koski, Vice President  
Ms. Celia Galimi  
Mr. Dante Ferrarie  
Dr. Joyce Snider

Dr. Jill Stoller  
Mrs. Angela Sacco Torres  
Mr. Robert Wei