

# News Release

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**For more information:**

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***Highly Capable* options for 2009-10 second- through fifth-graders**

Parents of 2009-10 second- through fifth -grade students may consider *Highly Capable* classrooms as future learning options. They may learn more about having their children tested for entry into the program by attending any of four Parent Information nights in November and December. Each meeting is scheduled from 7 — 8 p.m. at the locations listed below:

- Thursday, Nov. 13 in Garfield Elementary School's library, 2215 Pine Street, Everett
- Thursday, Nov. 20 in Emerson Elementary School's library, 8702 7<sup>th</sup> Ave SE, Everett
- Monday, Nov. 24 in James Monroe Elementary School's library, 10901 27<sup>th</sup> Ave SE, Everett
- Monday, Dec. 15 in Silver Firs Elementary School's library, 5909 146<sup>th</sup> Place SE, Everett

*Highly Capable* classes are designed for elementary students in second grade and beyond who exhibit advanced thinking skills and who have accelerated academic abilities. Anyone can nominate a student for program consideration, but only parents may authorize a child for testing that ultimately determines eligibility for the program. "The information nights are important for parents who are first learning about this program," says Becky Ballbach who oversees the *Highly Capable* program for the district.

Ballbach explains that classes are held at four district elementary schools — Cedar Wood, Mill Creek, Penny Creek and View Ridge. "The district provides transportation to the *Highly Capable* program sites for qualifying students," notes Ballbach. "We have located the programs in schools throughout the district so that no student has to travel the entire length of the district to be part of the program."

Entry into the program begins with completion of a set of forms which will be available starting Nov. 17 in the following ways:

- From any elementary school office
- From Categorical Program office at 4730 Colby Ave., Everett
- By calling 425-385-4033
- On the Everett Public Schools Web site at [www.everett.k12.wa.us/highcap/](http://www.everett.k12.wa.us/highcap/).

"At this time of year we prepare for next year's *Highly Capable* classes," says Ballbach. "It is important that we take care and take the time necessary for this important classroom placement for students." After forms become available on Nov. 17, the next steps in the process are:

- Parent Information nights as outlined above (optional)
- Dec. 17, deadline for turning in nomination forms
- January 2009, students are tested for eligibility into the program
- March 2009, Selection Committee meets
- April 2009, parents are notified of test results and of 2009-2010 student placement