The following is being provided as a simple guideline to help understand the difference between the "High Achiever" and the "Gifted Learner". Each Highly Capable student has his/her own talents and abilities and can possess characteristics in both categories.

HIGH ACHIEVER VERSUS GIFTED LEARNER

A HIGH ACHIEVER	A GIFTED LEARNER
Remembers the answers	Poses unforeseen questions
Is interested	Is curious
Is attentive	Is selectively mentally engaged
Generates advanced ideas	Generates complex, abstract ideas
Works hard to achieve	Knows without working hard
Answers the questions in detail	Ponders with depth and multiple perspectives
Performs at the top of the group	Is beyond the group
Responds with interest and opinions	Exhibits feelings and opinions from multiple perspectives
Learns with ease	Already knows
Needs 6 to 8 repetitions to master	Needs 1 to 3 repetitions to master
Comprehends at a high level	Comprehends in-depth, complex ideas
Enjoys the company of age peers	Prefers the company of intellectual peers
Understands complex, abstract humor	Creates complex, abstract humor
Grasps the meaning	Infers and connects concepts
Completes assignments on time	Initiates projects and extensions of
	assignments
Is receptive	Is intense
Is accurate and complete	Is original and continually developing
Enjoys school often	Enjoys self-directed learning
Absorbs information	Manipulates information
Is a technician with expertise in a field	Is an expert, abstracts beyond the field
Memorizes well	Guesses and infers well
Is highly alert and observant	Anticipates and relates observations
Is pleased with own learning	Is self-critical
Gets A's	May not be motivated by grades
Is able	Is intellectual

The "High Achiever" child can fit in a regular classroom setting very successfully and comfortably. The characteristics listed for the "Gifted Learner" better reflect students in the Highly Capable Program.