

August 2018

Dear LWSD Quest Teachers:

The Gifted Education Advisory Council (GEAC) is a non-profit, parent-volunteer organization that serves the Quest and Highly Capable (K5-HC) programs similar to a PTA. A main mission for GEAC is to provide financial support to Quest and K5-HC teachers to enhance the learning experience for Quest and K5-HC students above and beyond the standard LWSD curriculum. GEAC is pleased to again provide an opportunity for Quest and K5-HC teachers to apply for grants.

All grant funds come from direct donations by Quest and K5-HC families, plus corporate matching from Microsoft, Google, Boeing, and many other local companies. In recent years we have been fortunate that donations have provided sufficient funds to cover all approved applications.

Grant applications are accepted throughout the school year *until May 1st*, although some applications may be considered beyond that date (e.g., release time to attend national contests held in June). *Please read carefully* the enclosed **Grant Program Guidelines** document, which includes details about **important** dates, grant specifics, selection criteria, and funding restrictions. A **Grant Application** and an **Expense Documentation Form** are also included. If you need more than one copy of either of these documents please feel free to photocopy them or download them from our website at www.lwsdgeac.org (documents are under the “For LWSD Educators” tab).

A reminder with a link to these documents will also be emailed to you in the near future. In addition, GEAC will inform Quest and K5-HC families and Quest location principals about grant opportunities, and we encourage you to turn to them for suggestions and/or assistance with this process if needed.

If you have any questions regarding the grant process, please contact the GEAC Grants VP, Pronita Mehrotra, via the grants email address at grants@lwsdgeac.org.

Thank you for the tremendous job you do working with our children!

Jaya Ramesh
GEAC President
president@lwsdgeac.org

Gifted Education Advisory Council (GEAC)

WHAT IS GEAC?

The Gifted Education Advisory Council (GEAC) is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization started in 1989 to support parents, students, and educators in the Lake Washington School District (LWSD) highly capable community, including the LWSD Quest program. GEAC works in coordination with the LWSD and the highly capable community, similarly to how a PTA serves your local neighborhood school. *Our operating budget is funded 100% by annual donations and corporate matching.*

WHO WE ARE...

GEAC membership consists of families in the LWSD highly capable community, primarily current or past Quest and other Highly Capable Program families. Educators and other community members are welcome and encouraged to join. All are volunteers.

WHAT WE DO...

Our Mission: To support the unique needs of highly capable students enrolled in the Lake Washington School District.

We approach this mission through four avenues:

- *Outreach:* fostering communication and connection among families and staff within the highly capable learning community, as well as fostering communication and understanding between the highly capable learning community and others.
- *Enrichment:* supporting highly capable student learning in the classroom, making available funding for enhancements including, but not limited to, curriculum resources, excursions, and professional development for staff.
- *Education:* offering information about and/or access to relevant education and support opportunities for parents, students, and educators in the highly capable community.
- *Advocacy:* advocating for the needs of highly capable students before families, the LWSD School Board, and the LWSD Administration, as well as supporting broader advocacy efforts on behalf of the highly capable community.

www.lwsdgeac.org