

Dear Parent/Caregiver:

As you may know, North Platte Public Schools has created a program for High Ability Learners (HAL). Our district uses a formal identification process to identify potential students. The Measure of Academic Progress (MAP) and the Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT) provide information to determine eligibility.

Earlier this year, your child took the MAP test and achieved the cut score or above on the initial screening. In order for your child to continue through the identification process, we need permission to administer the CogAT test to your child. This test measures students' general abstract reasoning abilities and capacity to apply these abilities to cognitive tasks. CogAT is divided into three batteries, verbal, quantitative and nonverbal. All of these batteries appraise inductive and deductive reasoning. The test will be administered by me, at school, during regular school hours.

I have also enclosed a parent form for you to complete. Your child's teachers will be completing a form as well. The parent and teacher forms, along with the CogAT and MAP scores, will determine whether or not your child is eligible for the HAL program.

If you would like your child to be considered for the HAL program, please return the **permission form** and **parent form** to your school's office.

Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns. My number is 696-3329, or you may email me at ddigiova@nppsd.org.

Sincerely,

Denise DiGiovanni, HAL Director