

Program Proposal for  
ACCESS School

2148 WHEREAS, A group composed of staff and parents has developed a proposal for a program for highly gifted students called the "ACCESS School"; and WHEREAS, The District's strategic plan calls for supporting all students in achieving their very highest educational and personal potential; and WHEREAS, The ACCESS School proposal includes evidence that some students are particularly difficult to serve in the mainstream program, and will only have opportunities for peer group interactions in a program that aggregates them; and WHEREAS, The District is facing significant budget reductions in the 2002-03 budget; and WHEREAS, The ACCESS School program is proposed as a small-scale pilot in order to assess the true level of demand for such a program; therefore be it RESOLVED, That the Portland Public Schools Board of Education endorses the concept of a pilot of the ACCESS School alternative program as described in draft 5 of the proposal, for 112 students in four classes in the first year; and be it further RESOLVED, That the Board will approve formation of the ACCESS School subject to approval in the 2002-03 budget of one additional FTE for a .5 counselor and .5 administrative support for the program. J. Patterson