




Senate of Pennsylvania

Senator LeAnna M. Washington

4th Senatorial District

MEMORANDUM

Date: December 14, 2010
To: All Senators
From: Senator LeAnna M. Washington 
Subject: Co-sponsorship request - **Schools of Excellence Act**

I will reintroduce SB 1065, legislation to continue the Schools of Excellence program. The Schools of Excellence are residential summer programs on college campuses serving high school students with abilities and interests in the agricultural sciences, the creative and performing arts, global entrepreneurship, health care, information technology, international studies, the sciences and teaching. Many colleges and universities in Pennsylvania offer exclusive admissions scholarships to graduates of the Schools of Excellence.

The Pittsburgh Post-Gazette Editorial 'Scandal for Schools' stated: "Why cut great programs for the best students? America needs super-achievers to scale the heights as much as it needs underachievers to meet firm standards. Nothing is more important to a nation lagging in science and math and seeking to stay internationally competitive than to encourage a culture of high achievement among its youth."

This program has proven vital to the overall educational development many of Pennsylvania's highest achieving students. This legislation, if enacted, will ensure the continuity of this essential program.

To indicate your interest in co-sponsoring this important legislation, please contact Cindie Watkins in my office by calling 7-1427 or emailing cwatkins@pasenate.com