08/06/11

Dear Sir/Madam,

I would want to make a submission to the Education and Training Committee inquiry into the Education of Gifted and Talented students.

The first issue that I want to bring up is can the Committee define what is a gifted and talented student in particular for people who are outside the education area.

The second issue that I want to bring up is, the Education System should have a special year level called Year 13. In that year level a student can pick what subjects he or she can pick. Usually a subject or subjects which could not be done in the normal school program.

The third issue that I want to bring up is there would be a need to employ more teachers and teacher aides in schools. Both primary and secondary schools. Those staff would have to have a light workload. That workload would only concentrate on the talented and gifted children and emergency teaching in other teaching responsibilities.
The fourth issue that I want to bring up is, must avoid having a specialist centre where all the gifted and talented stay in one school without mixing with other students. It's the same reason for the non-gifted and talented students, to mix with gifted and talented students, so it will be easier for both types of students once they leave the school environment to make better connections.

The fifth issue that I want to bring up is, that local schools must have better connections to universities. To provide a easier transition from primary and high school to university. It should be of help to other people who have specialist knowledge, so they can handle the hard questions.

The sixth issue that I want to bring up is, that gifted and talented students still be able to do sports or physical activities so they get into a routine of exercise. It also helps other students who are not so bright so the teacher can focus on them.

The seventh issue that I want to bring up is, funding for gifted and talented students. There should be more money put into those students. There should be more funding for gifted and talented students who live rural areas. At least 25% more funding than city based students.

Yours sincerely
Nick Pastalamatis

N. Pastalamatis