

Michelle Pickard, Principal • Tim Baynes, Assistant Principal

Dear IVE Families,

The classroom placement process is complex and many factors impact the decision-making process. It would be wonderful if we knew in advance how many classes we could offer at each grade level and who would be teaching each of those classes. However, we are still awaiting staffing numbers for next year as the district sorts through the impact of enrollment, budgets, etc. Enrollment numbers are not considered accurate until August, and even then, they can change. We strive to create and maintain classroom environments that are warm, structured, nurturing, caring, supportive, and challenging for every child.

Our staff takes class placement very seriously. The task for each grade level team is to develop balanced classrooms based on the knowledge they have about the students; therefore, teams will not consider specific classroom teachers when creating class rosters. We assure you that each grade level team (with assistance of specialists, counselor, guidance team, etc.) take much time, effort and care in developing class rosters that result in offering all children a quality educational experience.

Following are factors that are taken into consideration:

- the program needs of the child
- a balanced ratio of boys to girls
- a balance of academic achievement levels
- social and behavioral needs and the compatibility of students with others in the classroom
- independent work habits and leadership skills
- information provided by the current teacher

Parent Input Letter

Parents can write a letter providing input for placement. A letter is optional. If you choose to write a letter, please include your child's name, current grade level, teacher's name, and parents' names. Be reassured that these letters will be kept confidential. I will use the information in the letter to help place students. Letters are due by April 19, 2019.

Parent Information and Input

Parents have pertinent information about children which may be considered in the placement process. Examples of information staff find helpful are: "Please separate my twins, Justin and Jason," or "Please do not place my daughter Mary in the same class as Jane, since we are neighbors and they are together all of the time," or "My child has only been in the United States one month and needs ELL support." Since our number one goal is to create balanced classrooms, we are not able to honor requests for students to be placed with special friends. Please note we do not accept letters that specify individual teachers by gender, experience level, or name.

Once balanced rosters are created and staffing is finalized, teachers will be assigned by the administrative team. Thank you in advance for your understanding and support of this process. Please be assured we do all we can to ensure thoughtful placement of each child. Again, we strive to create and maintain classroom environments that are warm, structured, nurturing, caring, supportive, and challenging for every child.

Sincerely,



Michelle Pickard, Principal