



HARVEST ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

KARL H. BOWMAN
PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents,

I believe that one of life's most important lessons is learning to live with change and to develop the capacity to adjust to all situations. One lesson that schools can teach children is that they can adjust and react in an acceptable way to the many personalities and individual differences of teachers. In fact, your child's contact with many different teachers may prove to be one of the most important lessons learned during his or her developing years.

It is my hope that parents will not feel it necessary to make special requests for teachers. This practice greatly increases the difficulty of organizing students in equal and *well-balanced* classes. If, after reading this letter, you feel your child has a need that requires special consideration beyond our normal procedure of meeting needs, the following steps should be followed to have your request considered:

1. Submit your request on a "Request for Special Placement" form (available at the office) prior to April 1, 2012, for consideration.
2. Requests submitted after April 1, 2012, cannot be guaranteed any special placement consideration.
3. Kindergarten students who come during the Track A early schedule (8:00 AM or 11:30 AM) will be automatically placed on the early schedule (8:00 AM) for first grade. Kindergarten students who come during the Track B late schedule (9:15 AM or 12:45 PM) will be automatically placed on the late schedule (9:15 AM) for first grade unless a "Request for Special Placement" is otherwise submitted for consideration.
4. Grades 1 – 6 students will be placed on the same track next year that they have this year unless you submit a "Request for Special Placement."

This policy is based on the following:

1. When teacher placements have been determined for the next school year, teams that may include the principal, classroom teachers, and the psychologist meet to consider each child in three areas:
 - a. Academic development and need.
 - b. Social development and need.
 - c. Physical development and need.
2. To aid us in organizing equal and well-balanced classrooms in these areas, the following guidelines are used:
 - a. Organize classes that are academically balanced in order to better meet the needs of all children.
 - b. Organize classes that have good social balance.
 - c. Match special student needs to teachers with special abilities.
3. After all these factors have been considered, students are placed with the teacher who, in the team's judgment, will best meet the needs and abilities of that particular student.

Class lists will be posted on August 15, 2012. You are welcome to stop by the school at that time to see who your student's teacher will be.

Sincerely,

Karl H. Bowman, Principal