

Student Classroom Placement for 2017 - 18

Please be reminded that during the month of June the staff at Edith McDermott Elementary will spend considerable effort and thoughtfulness in developing preliminary classroom organizations for the upcoming 2017-18 school year. The process of organizing classes is indeed complex and time consuming. All staff members will be present during specific meetings in order to share pertinent information about all of our students. Many criteria are taken into consideration when we establish tentative classroom organizations. Critical criteria include:

- individual student learning styles, strengths and needs, social and personal characteristics
- male/female balance in each class
- peer relationships
- Ministry of Education class size and class composition requirements

As you can see, social groupings for each child are certainly considered in the process, but classes are not made up based solely on friendships. As a staff, we do place considerable thought into ensuring that students have a support system within the new class. However, we also believe that opportunities to develop new friendships are valuable for everyone as a means of gaining increased independence and self-confidence.

If you feel you have additional information, such as specific learning needs of your child or the learning environment that best supports these needs, please provide this information in writing to Mr. Cunnings by **Friday, June 2, 2017**. If you submit written information, ***please remember that it is inappropriate to include any specific reference to a particular teacher or to other specific students at our school other than your own child(ren). It is also important for parents to know that it is unethical for any staff member to recommend or to listen to a request for a specific staff member.*** When considering whether to submit additional information or not, please do not feel that you are required to do so. Many parents feel their child's needs are well understood and appreciated. However, certainly the opportunity is yours.

The staffing that is allocated to each school is a reflection of the number of students enrolled to attend the following year. In planning for next year, it is imperative that we know if your child(ren) will be leaving Edith McDermott. If this is the case, please contact the office with this information as soon as possible. Also, please keep in mind that although we put tremendous effort into developing classes that will best meet the needs of all of our students, there are times when we are required to revisit our organization and changes sometimes must be considered. Please remember that when any decision is made, the Edith McDermott staff is committed to providing the best possible learning environment for everyone within the scope of our resources.