

April 2017

Dear Parents/Guardians,

As we enter spring, we begin the process of creating tentative class groupings for the 2017-18 school year. This process is very complex and includes a great number of considerations, with our end goal being balanced classes across grade levels and a successful school year for every student. We consider the needs of individual students and we strive to create classes that are balanced in terms of size, gender, learning and behavioral support needs, social dynamics, language development, etc. In addition to your child's current classroom teacher and grade level team, specials teachers, guidance counselors, applicable support teachers, and I are involved in the placement process as well.

The teachers with whom your child has worked throughout the year know your child very well as a learner and as a person. Nonetheless, you may wish to provide us with some additional information as we approach this process. The Placement Input Form is *optional* and can be used to share with us any information you think will be helpful. Because this process is a collaborative one, any information you provide will be shared with all of your child's current teachers. We welcome your input, and also thank you for trusting us as we plan for your student based on all that we know!

All teachers here at Richards are skilled professionals and there is no one perfect placement for a child. We also know that children benefit from exposure to a variety of teaching styles and class groupings. Please note that requests for specific teachers will not be honored.

Once tentative class groupings are created, they are tentative until the end of August as students move in and out over the summer. Registration for the 2017-18 school year will take place on August 17 and 18, and at that time you will receive your child's placement for the fall.

Thank you!

Dr. Alix Kasmarick