



SCHOOL DISTRICT No.69 (QUALICUM)

March 2019

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s):

RE: CLASS BUILDING FOR 2019-20

During the next month, staff at our schools will begin the complex process of forming learning groups for the upcoming school year. This work includes projecting student enrollment and creating classes that make the most effective use of our staff and most importantly, building balanced student groupings that can work together cohesively as learning communities. This is a challenging task as there are many factors that must be taken into consideration including:

- Social and emotional dynamics
- Academic strengths and needs
- Unique learning needs
- Class size goals

Staff take this work very seriously and collaborate extensively in order to make the best decisions about student placement. We strive to shape classes which will support the learning needs of **all** students.

There are many unknowns as we begin this task. For example:

- We are not sure who all of the teachers will be at our schools next year as the annual staffing process is not completed until late June
- Some staff members may request, or be asked, to change their assignment for next year
- We are never completely clear about our enrollment until early September and so learner groupings must remain somewhat fluid

As a result, the learner groupings that we create in spring are tentative and are not finalized until early in the new school year. For this reason, class groupings will be kept confidential until they are finalized in September.

If you would like to provide staff at your child's school with input into their placement for next year, we encourage you to:

1. Talk to your child's current classroom teacher about your interests, and then;
2. Send a note to the school principal outlining what you see as your child's learning needs, preferred learning style or any other information you think might be relevant as staff work through the task of shaping learning environments for the upcoming year.

We ask that you do not request a specific teacher. Your input will be considered along with the other complex variables that go into constructing a class; however, not all recommendations can be honoured.

The deadline for submitting information regarding your child's class placement is **Thursday, April 18, 2019**.

Sincerely,

Gillian Wilson
Assistant Superintendent of Schools

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