

Thomas D. Kershaw Intermediate School

Neil Williams-Principal Bryce Owen-Counselor Terri Shirley-Secretary
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Teacher Request and Student Placement Policy

April 17, 2015

Dear Parents,

We are in the beginning stages of looking at student placement for the upcoming 2015-16 school year. Student placement is a strenuous process that involves the careful consideration of students, teachers, and parents when organizing classes for the upcoming school year. As a result, there are several student qualities we consider when organizing classes, they are academic ability, diversity, gender, behavior, and parental input.

All teachers at Kershaw Intermediate School are uniquely qualified in their jobs, and they also share common strengths, especially in academic instruction. We have a strong teaching faculty at Kershaw Intermediate School and the students would do well under the direction of any teacher. Socially speaking, teachers are committed to providing all students with a positive, uplifting, and engaging learning environment. It is my commitment to ensure that students are taught in a constructive environment by providing teachers with balanced groups that promote teamwork, collaboration, and cooperation among students.

Having said this, I will not deny parents the opportunity to make a request based on their child's needs. Ultimately, I try to do what is best for the students and school as a whole, while also trying to meet individual needs.

Let me explain how the student placement process will work. At the end of the school year, I meet with the teachers and discuss the make-up of their class. We then compile preliminary classes looking at the strengths and needs of each child. In other words, we try to balance individual classrooms. We will discuss behavior and identify students who should or should not be together in the same classroom. We will also take into consideration the students' needs and personalities along with the above mentioned student qualities.

If you wish to become involved in this process, a written letter stating the educational needs of your child and the teacher request should be sent to the school in a **sealed envelope addressed to Mr. Williams before Friday, May 1st**. If you would like to request a teacher, I would ask that you include your top two choices of teachers in your written letter. Your information will be considered along with that of the teaching staff. The final placement of students is determined by the school. It is my hope that classes for the 2015-16 school year will be posted on or shortly after the last day of school. It is important that classes remain intact once they are posted to the public.

I am committed to this process, and I feel strongly that it will work. Your trust and support is greatly appreciated as we work to meet the needs of all students at Kershaw Intermediate School.

Sincerely,

Mr. Williams, Principal
Kershaw Intermediate School

4 th Grade: Mr. Draney, Mrs. Poulsen, Mrs. Singleton, and Mr. VanWagner
5 th Grade: Mrs. Folkman, Mrs. Galbraith, Mrs. Harrison, and Mrs. Inama
6 th Grade: Mrs. Daniels, Mr. Garner, Mrs. Preslar, and Mrs. Stewart