

Dear Families,

As we look ahead to next year's classroom placements, we know some parents would like to request a certain teacher or a certain friend in the class with their child.

All of our teachers are wonderful and represent a wide range of teaching styles. Your child will profit from working with all kinds of "mentors" during the six years they may study with us.

Our staff spends many hours working in teams to establish balanced classes to assure a mosaic of students with varying interests, needs, strengths, cultural backgrounds, and languages. For children with very specific and individualized needs (e.g. physical, emotional, or learning disabilities), we again work as a team to assure those special areas will be accommodated by the new class placement.

Once the classes are set, there will be no changes unless there is a truly unusual situation that is discussed fully with the parent of the child, teacher, principal, and superintendent. Even with this, changes will not be made during the first two weeks of school. We generally find that once students settle into the new grade, they acclimate quickly, make new friends and can always see their other friends during recesses, field trips, or other all-grade activities.

We ask for your trust and we thank you for respecting our professional judgment. **We ask that you not put teachers in an awkward position of answering to your requests for a certain person or friends. If you do say, "Please put my child with _____," the staff will respond, "I'm sorry, we cannot promise matches with personnel or students."**

We appreciate your cooperation with this placement procedure.

Mill Valley School District Principals