

Mr. James R. Case
Building Principal

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Mifflinburg Elementary School

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Mrs. Taylor Montesinos
K-5 Dean of Students

Mrs. Laura Kerstetter
School Counselor

July 31, 2024

Elementary Families,

As student placements will be released tomorrow, Thursday, August 1, 2024, I want to share some information with you that will help you understand your child's schedule/classes.

On student schedules you will see a different teacher's name other than your child's homeroom teacher on their schedule in addition to the Related Arts teachers. This is because the E.S. is carrying out a departmentalized approach to Science and Social Studies instruction this year. Two teachers will pair up. One will teach Science and the other Social Studies. Students in homeroom groups will switch classes on a scheduled rotation to receive instruction in both areas. There will be 3 classrooms in each grade that have a 3-way rotation and 2 different names may appear (1 for Science and 1 for Social Studies). This is largely due to the new Science Standards and finding dedicated time in our daily schedules to ensure instruction is being carried out in both Science and Social Studies on a regular basis.

We have three new teachers joining our staff this year:

- Miss Lauren Woollam will be joining the Kindergarten team this year. She will be working with Mrs. Hackenberg and Mrs. DeFacis for Science and Social Studies delivery.
- Mrs. Kerry Nornhold will be joining our second-grade team. Mrs. Nornhold will be teamed up with Mrs. Heggstaller for Science and Social Studies delivery.
- Miss Sadie Griswold will be joining the staff as the new Physical Education teacher. Many of you will see her at traffic circle throughout the year.

A lot of time and consideration goes into making class lists each year. I work collaboratively with a team to make sure we are looking at each child to ensure they are placed with the best teacher to meet their needs and learning style. I have personally read all parent information forms that were submitted and have taken those into consideration as well. Please do not reach out asking if your child can be moved to another classroom. Moving a child is not an easy task because it creates a ripple effect across several classes. We have excellent teachers at the E.S., all of whom want to support all students and help them be successful.

Information regarding our Back-to-School Night has been posted on our website and on the District Facebook Page. All families will have the opportunity to meet their child's teacher and visit the classrooms that evening. I am excited for a new school year and look forward to meeting our new students and families as well as reconnecting with our 1st and 2nd grade students and families on August 13th. Enjoy the rest of your summer as our first day of school, August 21st, will be here before we know it.

Sincerely,
Mr. James R. Case

Mifflinburg Elementary, where early learning becomes life-long learning.

*Life-long learning happens through: collaboration, inspiration, acceptance, and understanding of **all** students as individuals.*