



Ladner Link

Ladner Elementary School

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Principal: Ms. C. Edge-Partington

Vice Principal: Mme T. Carleton Gaines

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VICE PRINCIPALS MESSAGE

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Once again, this is the time of year when staffing allocations are made to schools and planning for the next school year begins. Due to this, it is extremely important that our enrolment numbers be as accurate as possible and, therefore, I would ask families who will be moving out of our area to contact the school as soon as possible with this information. Similarly, if you know of a family moving into our area, please encourage them to register their children by **June 1st** to secure their placement at Ladner Elementary.



As we plan for the 2020-21 school year I would like to make you aware of factors that are important in organizing classes for next year.

STAFFING AND CLASS SIZE:

The number of staff members assigned to Ladner Elementary is decided by the Delta School District and is based on projected student enrolment. Enrolment estimates and class size guidelines affect the configuration of classes. Currently, the class size limit is 20 for Kindergarten, 22 for Grades 1-3, and 29 for Grades 4-7. Combined (split) classes are an organizational necessity based on student numbers. While combined classes are an organizational necessity, research indicates that multi-age groupings provide very positive learning environments for children. Studies show that children in multi-age classes learn to become more independent, responsible learners and develop a greater degree of social responsibility. Achievement levels of these students are as good as, or better than, the achievement levels of students placed in single grade classrooms.

CRITERIA FOR STUDENT PLACEMENT:

Assigning students to particular classes is a very complex task that takes into consideration a variety of factors, including: learning styles and strengths, what a student is able to achieve in relation to the goals of the curriculum, degree of independence in work habits, social and personal needs, age and physical maturity, previous placements, number of ESL and Special Needs students, and parental insight. Our objective is to create balanced classes based on intellectual and social / emotional / behavioural development, as well as peer support and other needs. The professional staff, including teachers, support staff and administrators are in contact with the children in the school setting for 30 hours a week. Therefore, the classroom placement of students must be determined through school-based professional evaluations. Teachers have school-based knowledge of the above and therefore can best determine where individual children should be placed.

PARENT INPUT:

As our partners, we recognize that parents have important information that can assist with the placement of students. Parents are welcome to advise the school of personal, educational, or social information that could affect a child's placement. Our staff will keep in mind this information, along with the above considerations, when building classes.

This information should not include a request for placement with a particular teacher. Any requests received that request a specific teacher will not be considered.

Maternity leaves, retirements, and lay-offs combine to make school staffing a changing and ongoing process. Also, staff members may change grade levels due to school needs or further professional growth. Whatever the scenario, we strive to place your child in a warm, caring environment that will maximize their learning. If you have information about your child that you feel will assist us in making the best possible placement for them, please **submit it in writing by May 29th to the office.** Input received after this date will not be considered.