



# Gatestone Elementary School

PROUD SCHOOL OF HAMILTON-WENTWORTH DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

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Dear Parents/Guardians,

Each fall, HWDSB reviews elementary student enrolment in schools, and reorganizes staff if actual enrolment differs from the spring projections. It is normal for student enrolment to fluctuate from spring to fall.

This year, the fall reorganization is wide spread due to the in-person/remote option for students, as well as the ongoing need to meet provincial class size requirements.

Specifically, at our school, the reorganization will mean we will be opening an additional primary class and an additional junior/intermediate class. We also received an increase in staff support for our Kindergarten classes. Combined classes across Grades 1-8 will continue as well. A combined class has 2 Grade levels (e.g., 1/2 or 4/5).

The reorganization at Gatestone will mean that **students across Kindergarten to Grade 8** may experience movement into a new classroom with a new educator leading, or remain in their existing classroom with the same educator, but with some new students. A few of our primary classes may experience no change as well. The reorganization is to support the balance of our student population per class. We understand change can be difficult for some of our students, and our team of educators are ready to support students through this transition. Our current class sizes are above provincial requirements and these additional classes and support will help to provide the appropriate balance across all our grades.

Students will receive a letter on Friday, September 30 explaining their class placement for the remainder of the school year. Our transition date for new class placements will be October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2022. As our team of educators plan for the reorganization, student peer connections and optimal learning environments are considered.

We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause and appreciate your understanding.

As always, our team of dedicated educators will work with you to ensure your child is well supported and experiences educational success.

Respectfully,

Ms. K. Reilly-Scott  
Principal  
Gatestone Elementary