



Huntington Park Elementary School

PROUD SCHOOL OF HAMILTON-WENTWORTH DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

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September 21, 2022

Dear Families,

Each year, in September, the Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board goes through an important process whereby student numbers in schools are examined and determinations are made as to whether schools require additional staff or whether schools must declare staff surplus.

Our enrollment at Huntington Park Elementary School has increased somewhat. The Ontario Ministry of Education has set class size caps for Primary grades and, as a result, we must reorganize some classes in the school to be compliant with that requirement. This process causes a ripple effect into the Junior Division as we "right-size" Primary classes. These steps will help us optimize the learning opportunities for all our students. These changes will take effect on Thursday, October 6, 2022.

I would ask that you trust our staff as they will be working together to coordinate these classroom changes; paying close attention to the specific learning needs of each child. Like our area schools, we do not take specific class or teacher requests nor can we take requests for straight grade classes rather than combined classes. It is not possible to start switching classes, by specific parent requests, as this undermines the entire class make-up. Please do not call or email your child's teacher or the school office to request a specific teacher or a specific type of class.

As you know, the teaching staff at Huntington Park Elementary is a talented and committed team of professionals who have been planning collaboratively since the beginning of the school year. It is always my expectation that this collaboration will continue so that program changes will be minimal. Any specific information regarding your child that has been shared with their current teacher by parents will also be passed on to the new teachers.

While we appreciate that change can be a difficult thing for some, it is what we make it. **Our children take their cues from their adult role models and so we encourage you, if you receive a letter regarding a change to your child's class placement, to be positive with them about the change and encourage them to have a positive mindset.**

If your child is affected by this reorganization of the school, we will communicate changes to you before September 30th. Should you have any questions about the re-organization practices of the HWDSB, please feel free to contact me directly. Thank you for your patience, understanding and continued support of our students.

Sincerely,

T. Ilman
Principal