

CHARLOTTE AVENUE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
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Patricia Beaulieu
Principal

Theresa Keane
Assistant Principal

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Next Year's Placement

"Before any significant learning can take place, schools need to think very carefully about how they lay the foundation for that supportive and caring climate," said Jill Cook, the assistant director of the American School Counselor Association. "It can't be, the second they walk in the door it's boom, boom, open your math book."

We all have been impacted by this pandemic, and it has forever changed what learning, schooling, and connecting means for our children. With change now more the constant, we strive to be more adaptable and flexible in our plans and create a resilient learning environment for all students.

We recognize that many of our students are impacted academically, and socially/emotionally, as a result of this challenging time and that as a school community we need to:

- Prepare to address whole school and individual learning gaps, lagging skills, and instructional delays
- Provide students with opportunities to re-connect, to re-establish bonds, and to re-create the learning conditions of safety, care, belonging and connection, and we need to
- Give students ample time to learn rituals, routines, and relationships in their classrooms and throughout the school
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Considering the major changes our students have experienced, and the lack of closure for this school year, placement for our current first through fourth grade students will look different this year. Instead of mixing classrooms, as we have traditionally done, we will place students intact with their current classmates and move intact classes to a new teacher in the next grade level. Our goal is to provide more continuity for students and to provide them with the comfort of knowing their classroom peers. A significant benefit would be that the sending teacher would meet with the receiving teacher so that she would know immediately where the students in each classroom were, at least when they left the classroom. Research shows in general that students benefit from "having more familiar faces" around them in class. It could provide a degree of emotional security for students who haven't been in school for months and make it easier for teachers to help students catch up. **If families have a significant concern about this, please email either Mrs. Beaulieu (beaulieup@nashua.edu) or Mrs. Keane (keanet@nashua.edu) with your specific concern.**

Kindergarten **will have a separate placement process, as we have three kindergarten classrooms moving to four first grade classrooms, with additional students from other kindergartens. Kindergarten teachers are working carefully on this placement process.**

Teacher placement letters will be mailed out in mid-August. The welcome letter and the school supply list will come together. We will post grade-level supply lists on the school website as well.

I apologize for the length of this email and thank you for your patience as you read through the details. In an effort to continue to build trust with our families, it is important that we are transparent in our plans and open to family and student voices and feedback.

Mrs. Beaulieu