



William Diamond Middle School

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Dear Parents/Guardians of Fifth Grade Students:

We will soon begin the process of student placement on teams for next year. Our primary goal is to create balanced learning environments in which each child is able to flourish and grow academically, socially and emotionally. The placement process is based on a variety of information collected from teachers, counselors, parents and administrators.

Next year, we are projected to have four teams for sixth grade. The final selection of the team teachers will take place this spring and summer. In order to maximize each child's ability to learn, there are many criteria used to place students on teams. These include:

- Balance within and across teams---diversity, gender, strengths, etc.
- Support needs (special education and general education)
- Staff recommendations
- Student placement history

We work closely with our feeder schools to learn about your child before he/she arrives. Undoubtedly, you will also have important information to share with us. This valuable information should be captured on the attached **Student Information Form**. Since we cannot meet with each of you during this transition, we do work hard to consider the information you share on the form as we create teams.

Please do not make requests for specific teams or teachers, as we will not be able to honor these requests. The school administration has the final decision in the placement of all students.

In addition to the Student Information Form, please find **course registration directions** and the **permission slip** for Move-Up Day. Course registration will be done **online between March 29th and April 6th**. You will select your child's preference of a World Language, as well as Performing Arts.

Both the permission slip and Student Information Form should be returned to your child's fifth grade teacher by **Friday, April 27th**.

We are looking forward to welcoming your child to Diamond in the fall!

Sincerely,

Jennifer E. Turner
Principal