

Dear Wickham Families,

I'm sure you are just as surprised as I am to realize that the end of the school year is fast approaching. As of next week, we have just under two remaining months of school. One important task that the Wickham staff will accomplish by year's end is to begin creating class lists for next school year. The classroom placement process is quite dynamic in nature and entails a great deal of time and careful thought. Attached, you will see the Classroom Placement Considerations policy which we have used for several years. You will also see the form which was implemented last spring. The intent of this form is to provide a standard way for parents/guardians to provide information that might assist us in the classroom placement process. **Please keep in mind that this form is not intended to be completed for all students, we aren't suggesting you fill one out, we'd prefer it to be used only if you believe there are special/unique circumstances that may affect a sound placement decision for your child.**

If you have any questions or suggestions about this process, please feel free to contact me. As always, we thank you for your support of Wickham Elementary and our community of learners.

Lora Daily, Principal

Class Placement for the Following Year

The placement of children in classes for the following school year is a decision of great importance. When determining homeroom placements for the next year, we strive for continuity and balance in the areas of gender, range of developmental stages, social mixture, culture, and other factors. We strive to have heterogeneous homerooms that reflect the diversity of our community. In order to achieve all those priorities we work through an extensive process for determining class placement for the following year.

This process includes, but is not limited to:

- ◆ Individual classroom teachers analyze assessment data for each student in all academic areas as well as social and emotional needs.
- ◆ Teachers in each team meet, compile and discuss the information, and begin to make tentative groupings of students, looking at the individual student needs as well as the make up of the class.
- ◆ Vertical Instructional Teams (the sending/receiving teachers and also specials teachers) meet and review that composition of the homerooms and the best interests of all students in the respective teams and classrooms.

Honoring the decisions made by the educational teams in regard to the class make up is extremely important. Generally, Wickham administration and staff ask parents **not** to make requests for a specific teacher or classroom. When such requests are made, they interfere with the extensive process used by our educational teams to make balanced groupings and in determining what is best for all students in a particular classroom or team.

The following includes information to further explain the attached form.

Sibling Match

Wickham's placement practice in the past has been to provide families with teacher continuity, which helps to maintain positive parent partnerships. This means that students have usually been placed in classrooms with teachers whom older siblings had in previous years. Over time it is becoming difficult for the staff to remember all the details necessary to insure the sibling/teacher match, as well as interfering with creating balanced class lists. Therefore, if the "sibling match" is important to you, please use the attached form to

inform us. Exceptions to the “sibling match” request are made by the educational team, when necessary, to maximize educational services and resources for all students.

Specific, unique, special academic, social, behavioral or emotional needs

Parent input is also welcome if your child has special academic, social, behavioral or emotional needs. This information can be provided via the attached form.

Due to the dynamic nature of this placement process **requests are not guaranteed**. Class lists will be posted at the Back To School Social in August and are not subject to last minute parental requests for changes.

Thank you for your support.

2011-2012 CLASSROOM PLACEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

Parent Name _____ Student Name _____

Contact Information: Phone _____ Email _____

This form must be returned to the Wickham Office **by the first Friday in May (6th)**.

You are submitting your placement consideration with the following understanding:

- You have read the **Class Placement For The Following Year**.
 - Information below will be shared with the educational team.
 - Your request will be considered, is for homeroom placement only, though it is not guaranteed.
 - If you wish for your child to be placed with a teacher who taught an older sibling, you need to specifically state this below.
-

I am making a classroom placement request for my child based upon:

Sibling Match: _____
(Name of teacher requested)

AND / OR

Educational Consideration: Below, please provide specific information which may assist with the class placement process regarding your child in any/all of the areas below

Social/emotional/behavioral needs, please explain:

Academic needs, please explain:

Health Needs, please explain:

Other, please explain:

WICKHAM NEWSLETTER

Web Address: www.iccsd.k12.ia.us/Schools/Wickham/WickhamHome.html

Lora Daily, Principal

Daily.Lora@iccsd.k12.ia.us

688-1175

Friday, April 1, 2011



April 4th is spring picture day! All students are photographed. Photo packages will be sent home in 2-3 weeks. Purchase is optional.

SPREAD THE WORD!

Kate Wickham's Kindergarten Round-Up



When: April 14th 2011

Time: 2:30-4:00

Where: Kate Wickham Media Center

Why: To learn about Kindergarten at Wickham and participate in various activities.

Children must be registered prior to attending round-up

I would like to thank the University of Iowa Maia String Quartet in residence for coming to Wickham School on Wednesday, March 23rd. This group of master musicians performed for Team Four students. The theme for their performance was democracy and working together in collaboration. The Iowa City Community School District Foundation provided funding for this event. If you would like to know more about the Maia Quartet please check their website at <http://www.maiaquartet.com>. Sincerely, Sally Strang, General Music Teacher



Now that the weather is getting nicer more children are walking or riding bikes home. This decreases the number of children waiting in car line inside the gym. Please arrive as promptly to 3:00 as possible.

Thank you for your cooperation each day!! Our collaboration keeps your children safe and the line moving smoothly!!!

Also, please refrain from cell phone usage during drop off and pick up times.

Calendar of Events

APRIL			
Monday 4	Spring Pictures		Art Room
Thursday 14	Kindergarten Round Up	2:30 – 4:00 pm	Media Center/T1 Classrooms
Friday 15	Spirit Day!! Wear Wickham Wear or School Colors		
Tuesday 19	PTO Meeting	6:00 – 7:00	Media Center
Tuesday 26	Beginning Band Concert	7:30 – 8:30	West High School
Friday 29	NO SCHOOL		

It is the policy of the Iowa City Community School District not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, gender, age, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, veteran status, disability, or socioeconomic status in its educational programs, activities, or employment practices. If you believe you have (or your child) has been discriminated against, please contact the ICCSD Equity Director, Ross Wilburn at 509 S. Dubuque Street, 319-688-1000.

IOWA CITY WEST TRACK & FIELD INSTRUCTIONAL CAMP

Saturday, April 16, 2011 9am- Noon

At the West High Track

For Boys and Girls Grades 2nd thru 8th

ONLY \$30 per student (includes T-Shirt)

**Come learn the techniques to becoming the best track and field athlete you can be!
Spend the morning learning how the West High Girls Track and Field team has become the
6-Time State Champions by learning the hurdles, high jump, long jump, throws & sprint events.
Finish the morning with a Mini-Track Meet!**

Our camp is specifically designed for all **ABILITY LEVELS**, from the young beginner to the experienced athlete.

Knowledge of the most efficient and effective techniques will help you run, throw and jump better than ever!

These techniques take time to perfect, but are easy to learn.

Members of the West High Girls Track and Field team will serve as counselors and the West High Coaching Staff will lead the camp.

*******One day invested now can lead to great success in the future*******

IOWA CITY WEST TRACK & FIELD INSTRUCTIONAL CAMP Saturday, April 16th, 2011 (Rain Date April 23rd) REGISTRATION

Name: _____

Address: _____

Grade: _____ Phone #: _____ School: _____

Male _____ Female _____ Shirt Size: YM S M L XL

We understand accidents may occur even though safety precautions have been followed.
My son/daughter has my permission to participate in the West High Track & Field Instructional Camp.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Please drop off or mail registration form and money to:

Iowa City West High
C/o One Day Track Camp
2901 Melrose Avenue
Iowa City, Iowa 52246

Checks should be made payable to West High Girls Track. You may register the day of the camp but only advanced registration will receive a T-Shirt.

For additional information contact: Mike Parker 354-7682 or at icparker@msn.com