



Sallyann Mccarty <smccarty@greenhills.org>

Fwd: GHS placement shifts

1 message

krisitn blodnik <kblodnik@yahoo.com>
To: smccarty@greenhills.org

Wed, May 30, 2018 at 12:27 PM

Hello, would you kindly distribute to the board members for consideration in advance of the next meeting.
Thank you in advance,
Kristin

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: krisitn blodnik <kblodnik@yahoo.com>
Date: May 30, 2018 at 12:27:05 PM EDT
To: jnittolo@greenhills.org, jthompson@greenhills.org
Cc: smccarty@greenhills.org
Subject: GHS placement shifts

Dear Mr. Nittolo and Miss Thompson,

In follow up to the recent release of teacher assignments for the 2018/2019 school year, I wanted to reach out to share some concerns and considerations with hopes it may have an impact on the proposed changes. While a number of teacher placements have been proposed and appear to be questionable in value, I would like to highlight the few that are most concerning to me.

2nd grade--Miss Maffei

It seems counterintuitive to take a seasoned and accomplished teacher who has the ability to nurture and develop her students and support them in establishing a love of learning like Miss Maffei has. My children have been fortunate enough to experience her both in kindergarten and 2nd grade and have left her class as high functioning, inquisitive, confident students well prepared for the next grade. Miss Maffei should have the opportunity to grace her classroom with both the depth and breadth of her passion for teaching and continue to create productive citizens in the way she has for the last number of years. Her talents are best utilized and maximized in a formal classroom setting rather than a basic skills or limited environment.

3rd grade--Miss Martinka

Miss Martinka has a gift for connecting with her students and effectively strives to help ensure that each one works towards their fullest potential. She has an innate ability to help her third graders take on a sense of responsibility that younger students have not yet developed the maturity to effectively 'own'. Her fluency of the 3rd grade curriculum and passion for making it relevant to her students is visible in her day to day actions, she has a dynamic way of ensuring her students understand the challenging math and reading concepts that are introduced. Moving Miss Martinka would be a detriment to the incoming 3rd graders that would have the potential to experience her style and flourish from the learning she is able to instill in them.

Additionally, GHS has struggled to maintain strong and effective staffing in third grade in the recent past and it is incredibly concerning to think that Miss Martinka

may be moved.

1st grade—Miss Sprofera

Miss Sprofera is a first grade staple at GHS. Her calm demeanor and love of reading help to prepare students for the learning and growth they will experience in years to come. Her ability to connect with her first grade audience is evident and should be allowed to continue.

While I trust that each these wonderful teachers would be effective in any elementary environment, I am struggling to understand why they would be "swapped" from grades in which they are seasoned in and have proven to be incredibly successful. As a parent, it does not appear that there is any value in these moves, particularly as these are not in response to student headcount/ratio needs.

These proposed staffing changes do not seem to be in the spirit of ensuring our students "*receive the best possible education*" and do not appear to align with the mission and vision that has been put forth to represent GHS. I emphatically believe that these proposed shifts, are not in the best interest of the student body at this time and respectfully request you reconsider these moves.

Thank you in advance for your time and consideration, I would be happy to schedule some time to speak with you in further detail about my concerns.

Kind regards,

Kristin Post

973 786 7786