



# WESTERN DUBUQUE COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Sheila Schmidt  
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Bernard Elementary (PK, 1, 3)  
Phone.....563-879-3190  
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Cascade Elementary (PK-6)  
Phone.....563-852-3335  
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Cascade Jr./Sr. High (7-12)  
*Home of the Cougars*  
Phone.....563-852-3201  
Fax.....563-852-7186

Drexler Middle/Intermediate  
(5-8)  
Phone.....563-744-3371  
Fax.....563-744-3711

Dyersville Elementary (PK-4)  
Phone.....563-875-8484  
Fax.....563-875-8265

Epworth Elementary (PK-4)  
Phone.....563-876-5514  
Fax.....563-876-3208

Farley Elementary (PK-4)  
Phone.....563-744-3308  
Fax.....563-744-9190

Peosta Elementary (PK-4)  
Phone.....563-588-9010  
Fax.....563-588-9013

Western Dubuque High (9-12)  
*Home of the Bobcats*  
Phone.....563-876-3442  
Fax.....563-876-5512

Maintenance/Transportation  
Phone.....563-744-3512  
Fax.....563-744-9001

To: Peosta Elementary 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Parents  
From: Rick Colpitts and Shari Sutton  
Subject: Location for 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Next Year  
Date: February 27, 2017

As most of you know, our district is experiencing a great deal of growth in enrollment, especially on the north side. Increasing enrollment is a good thing, until you don't have room for the additional students. With all of the residential lots opening up in the community of Peosta, we are in the process of expanding Peosta Elementary to accommodate for the future growth. Unfortunately, the rise in enrollment at Drexler Middle Intermediate School (DMIS) was not anticipated soon enough to build on to provide adequate classroom space for all of the students next year.

The good news is that the six additional classrooms being added to Peosta Elementary will be completed in August of this year. Peosta won't need all of these classrooms immediately, so we have some extra rooms for a least a few years. With the overcrowding at DMIS and the extra space at Peosta Elementary, we have decided that this year's 4<sup>th</sup> grade students will remain at Peosta as 5<sup>th</sup> graders next year. These students will delay their entry into DMIS until they are in 6<sup>th</sup> grade.

This change probably brings a few questions to mind, and we will do our best to answer those as they come up. Here are a few that we think might be pretty common:

1. Will my child still have the opportunity to participate in band next year? Answer: Yes, band will be taught to the 5<sup>th</sup> graders at Peosta Elementary.
2. Will other elementary schools be keeping their 4<sup>th</sup> graders in their buildings through 5<sup>th</sup> grade as well? Answer: No, the other elementary schools don't have additional classroom space to accommodate for 5<sup>th</sup> grade. The other elementary schools will send their 4<sup>th</sup> graders on to DMIS for 5<sup>th</sup> grade.
3. How will that change impact my child's education? Answer: Since 5th grade classrooms at DMIS are set up like traditional elementary classrooms around the district, the educational experience your child has next year, will be the same as the rest of the 5th graders in the district.

We are sure that many more questions will surface as we move through this process this spring. As questions arise, you can direct those to me or to Shari Sutton. We will do our best to make sure we get you answers as quickly as possible. We are confident that this change will provide our students with a great educational experience as well as provide us with time to determine how best to accommodate for increased enrollment at DMIS in the future.

Thank you.

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