



HEMLOCK CREEK ELEMENTARY

1900 Williams Grant [Drive](#) • De Pere, WI 54115

Kathleen Held — [Principal](#) • Michael Kowalczyk — Associate Principal • (920) 425-1900 • FAX (920) 425-1914

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CLASSROOM PLACEMENT INFORMATION FOR 2025-2026 - Grades K-4

Dear Families,

Spring is when we begin our process of planning and grouping students for the 2025-2026 school year and that time is just around the corner. In making placement decisions, we work as a team, (principals and staff members), to determine appropriate classroom configurations. The ultimate goal for the classroom placement process is to create well-balanced heterogeneously grouped classrooms of students. We consider each child's individual learning style, academic ability and support services that may be needed. Additionally, class lists address the need for appropriate balance of ability levels, gender, sociability, and behavior styles. Balancing classroom grouping assures that all students get the teacher attention and energy they deserve and that best practices for teaching and learning are actualized to maximize learning outcomes for all students. As you can appreciate, it is an artful challenge, not a perfect science.

In our efforts to create a well-balanced classroom for everyone's benefit, parent requests that have an educational need will be considered (but not guaranteed). We ask that you confine such comments to the following areas (child's personality, type of environment which your child excels, family issues that impact learning, exceptional strengths/special needs, health issues, and past school experiences. **Parent requests for specific teachers will NOT be granted.** For the 2025-2026 school year, we may also have grade-level staffing changes based on enrollment. It may be necessary to limit the number of requests in any one classroom in order to provide a mix of students. If a parent request is honored, we will give preference in future years to parents who have not made a previous request. I realize that on occasion, there may be extenuating circumstances when a teacher preference needs to be considered. For example, if a prior relationship with a prospective teacher would make things awkward (relative, neighbor), you are certainly welcomed to share that information with me. **Please forward your letter or email me (kheld@wdpsd.com) no later than APRIL 11, 2025. This is a firm deadline date.**

Students entering grades 1-4 will receive a letter in August prior to open house introducing their teacher along with open house information. Incoming kindergarten students will receive a letter after Kindergarten Camp but prior to open house in late August. Changes to class rosters will only be made in rare circumstances in August.

Kathleen Held, Principal
Hemlock Creek Elementary School