

School District of Westfield

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"Inspiring every student, through every experience, every day!"

Dear Pioneer Families and Staff,

March 21, 2024

The School District of Westfield is committed to meeting the needs of our students and families through strategic reconfiguration and programming enhancements. Following careful consideration and community input, the district has approved two significant changes aimed at optimizing resources and providing a more comprehensive educational experience.

First, the relocation of the 6th grade to the current Middle School for instruction has been approved, starting in the 2024-25 school year. This decision, supported by community feedback, financial projections, enrollment data, and curriculum alignment, allows for the reconfiguration of learning spaces and enhances student programming. With a projected enrollment of 75 students, this transition will have a neutral financial impact from a staffing perspective while providing greater opportunities for our middle school students.

In conjunction with the relocation of the 6th grade, the district has also recommended implementing all-day, everyday 4K programming at our elementary schools. This move is seen as a seamless transition, made possible by the recent approval of the 6th-grade relocation, and offers an opportunity to enhance educational offerings. Research consistently demonstrates the positive impact of early childhood education on cognitive development and school readiness. By offering all-day, everyday 4K, we aim to provide our youngest learners with a more comprehensive educational experience, setting a strong foundation for their future academic success.

Moreover, the introduction of all-day, everyday 4K programming aligns with our commitment to meeting the evolving needs of our community and supporting families. Offering all-day, every day 4K can alleviate childcare concerns for parents while also potentially supporting an increase in enrollment and enhancing school programming. We also recognize that all-day, everyday programming may not meet the needs of every family's preference. The District will be flexible with families and our 4K learners in establishing their school weekly plan.

These strategic decisions not only benefit our students but also reflect our dedication to fostering a positive and supportive learning environment for all of our learners. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out to me or your student's building principal.

Warm Regards,

Michelle Johnson

Michelle Johnson District Administrator School District of Westfield 608-296-2141 ext 1008