

**PORT JEFFERSON SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**EDNA LOUISE SPEAR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**  
**500 SCRAGGY HILL ROAD**  
**PORT JEFFERSON, NY 11777**  
**PHONE (631)791-4300 FAX (631)476-4419**



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Jessica Schmettan  
Superintendent of Schools

Amy Laverty  
Principal

Brianne Antenucci  
Assistant Principal

April 18, 2024

Dear Parents and Guardians,

The end of the school year is fast approaching! I hope you and your families are well and enjoying this school year.

It is the time of year when we begin our detailed process of classroom placement for the upcoming school year. This is a lengthy and thoughtful process as our teachers take a great deal of concern and care to find optimal placements and to create well-balanced classes. We incorporate all that we know about a student, his/her strengths and challenges, learning style, and interactions with adults and peers, in order to craft classes that maximize the learning potential.

As your child's first and most important teacher, your contribution to this process is helpful in making the best decision for your child's placement. Should you feel the need, you are welcome to provide any information about your child as a learner that you believe will have a direct and specific bearing on his/her placement for next year. This may include learning styles, specific learning conditions, or any other factors that will enable a successful school experience.

Requests for specific teachers will not be considered. Students will be placed with peers whom the teacher observes they are friendly with. Requests to be placed with other students are not guaranteed. You may make a request to separate your child from another student. Please include a reason and specific information. Separation requests will be considered based on circumstances, and cannot be guaranteed. In such a small school, it is nearly impossible to honor all requests. Our goal is to help students problem solve and learn to communicate efficiently with all of their peers.

Communicating this information is completely optional. Each child is given the same careful consideration as the others, regardless of whether or not we have received input from the parents. However, your input and voice are welcome in the process. Please communicate in writing, addressed to my attention, no later than May 3, 2024, to allow the time necessary for this process to be done well. Letters received after this date cannot be honored. Letters must be in hard copy form; emails will not be accepted.

Edna Louise Spear Elementary School is fortunate to have a team of outstanding educators whose mission is to provide the best possible learning experience for each child. We will take the utmost care to see that your child is placed in the most optimal setting for the upcoming school year.

Class placements will be mailed home over the summer. I appreciate your input, cooperation, and patience throughout this comprehensive process. Thank you for your ongoing partnership and support.

Respectfully,

*Amy Laverty*  
Principal