



NEW LENOX SCHOOL DISTRICT 122

Dr. Sass Update *January 25, 2012*

Dear Parents:

Tonight at the Board of Education Meeting, Dr. Manville and I presented a new program plan for our Kindergarten and Early Childhood Programs. Due to decreased enrollment at the Kindergarten level over the last few years and the projected enrollment for the next three to five years, the District has determined that it is in the best interest of our program to house all the incoming kindergarten students at one location next year, Spencer Trail School. In addition, the District will move all Pre-K and Early Childhood programs to Cherry Hill School.

With this move, the following changes will be implemented for the 2012-2013 School Year:

- Cherry Hill School will be informally renamed Cherry Hill Early Childhood Center.
- Current Early Childhood Coordinator Jacci Brown will be reassigned from Spencer Trail to Cherry Hill to serve as the new principal of the Early Childhood Center.
- Mrs. Lori Motsch will remain as the principal of Spencer Trail and serve as the leader of our kindergarten teachers and students.
- Dr. Marianne Cucci, the current principal of Cherry Hill, will be reassigned to be the principal of Nelson Prairie School.
- Nelson Prairie's current principal, Trisha Anderson, will be reassigned as a classroom teacher.

Although there will be substantial administrative savings associated with the elimination of one administrator, decreased enrollment was the motivating factor. It is our belief that our kindergarten students are best served when we are able to house them and all their teachers together. In addition, it has always been our hope to create an Early Childhood Center to meet the needs of our Pre-K students in the community.

Finally, so that you have a complete understanding of the facilities, Spencer Trail will still have four extra classrooms with the move and Cherry Hill will have approximately 6-8 classrooms available. The District will be able to rent the extra space at Cherry Hill to the Lincoln-Way 843 Cooperative for some of their Early Childhood programming. Thus, we will have two buildings filled with dynamic educators meeting the needs of our youngest learners in preparation for their future years in the District.

As always, I thank you for your patience and support during these administrative changes. Working together, I know we will continue to make a positive difference in the lives of our students.

Sincerely,

Michael W. Sass, Ed.D
Superintendent