

To the Brent Fifth Grade families,

The Brent faculty has dedicated an immense amount of time and energy to our class development process. Teaching teams took into account individual student needs through multiple lenses (effective and ineffective co-learners, academic strengths and growth areas, social development, gender, ethnicity, and parent input) to create balanced classroom communities for the coming year. After receiving those class lists, the Brent administration reviewed the composition of students and teachers, making minor adjustments to incorporate new students or to accommodate for unexpected classroom changes. We returned these lists to teachers for a final review and voila – published lists!

As you can see, classes were composed using an extensive amount of thought and input to ensure that the best placement for each and every student. If you note something unexpected (such as an imbalance in gender or class numbers), please know that it was a reasoned decision (there may have been a grade-level imbalance in genders or an extra instructional adult will be present in that classroom).

I hope that you and your child(ren) will be excited to discover this year's teacher(s) and classmates, and I am confident in all of our teachers' ability to foster academic growth, social development and community in their classrooms. As such, I ask that placements remain for six weeks before considering changes, and we will work together to assuage any concerns in the meantime. However, if there are misspellings or omitted students, please let me know and we will rectify the situation immediately.

Please also take a moment to review our new faculty pictures and bios on the Brent website as they are posted over the coming days. We are privileged to have a skilled and consistent group of Brent faculty returning to our community for another year and to have several new additions to match our growth!

This year our fifth grade will follow a departmentalized structure. A few details about that structure:

- The departmentalized structure allows for a depth of content that matches the readiness for rigor and maturity of our fourth grade students
- All students will have a consistent cohort and a homeroom teacher with whom they will spend the majority of their class time, including the periods for community building, writing and social studies instruction.
- Students will change classes for Math (Ms. Saxton) and Reading (Ms. Wilson).
- Differentiation, or ensuring that instruction and learning tasks are

matched to individual learners, will be a core practice with explicit coaching around math levels and additional adults (Center for Inspired Teaching Fellows, instructional coaches, special educators, other content area teachers and administration) pushing into the space to grow capacity and student service.

- Each classroom has a schedule of interspersed homeroom days to allow for support for organizational structures, explicit social emotional lessons and community building, and intensive and responsive academic seminars (across fourth and fifth grade classes to deepen the match between student need and academic content).

We are excited to provide more information through newsletters and early communication, and will be poised to share more details and our early reflections and adjustments on Back to School Night on August 30th. Until then, please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions.

Sincerely,

Norah Lycknell, Principal

Sara Ewbank, Assistant Principal

5th Grade

Ms. Saxton - Room 308	Ms. Wilson - Room 306
Cherish B	Tayen B
Amare C	Treasure B
Ingrid D	Joseph D
Dawn D	Chase D
Jackson G	Henry D
Quinn C	Marlee D
Jasarah G	Autumn D
Hazel J	Armoni E
Malik J	Jamison F
Eyan K	Keith G
Claire N	Maximilian K
Alyssa O	Emilia L
Madeline P	Lucia L
Ariana P	Nora S
Nolan R	Amare S
Dylan S	Jaiden S
Kaia S	George S
Justin W	Zoey T
Dena Z	Sienna W
	Nadia W