

Bogert Elementary School

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Mr. David Kaplan, Principal



October 27, 2021

Dear 5th Grade Parents,

As you heard during your Back-To-School Night presentations, beginning November, 5th grade students will receive their science/social studies instruction from another 5th grade teacher, an instructional model known as departmentalization. The departmentalized model of instruction is one in which teachers specialize and teach a specific subject while students switch teachers to receive their instruction in that subject.

Prior to COVID, an extensive amount of research and planning went into preparing for this shift away from completely self-contained homerooms. A committee of Bogert teachers and district administrators surveyed several schools in Bergen County, visited schools who are departmentalized, and reviewed research about the potential benefits of this type of instructional model. Upon realizing that moving towards this model would be the right decision, we proceeded with plans for a pilot program for the 2019-2020 school year. While our goal was to make the full transition last year, for obvious reasons, it wasn't the right time.

Prior to beginning the new rotation, students will discuss with their teacher expectations for hallway behavior, how much time is appropriate for transitioning, respecting someone else's desk, how to remember to bring necessary learning materials, etc. The class pairings are below:

Science	Social Studies
Ms. Darienzo	Ms. Sangha
Mrs. Capogrosso	Mrs. Balsamo
Ms. LaSpina/Mrs. Bollenbach	Ms. Murphy

I am excited about the prospects of enhancing Bogert's already strong academic program and, at some point later in the year, I will solicit your feedback about this change; as you know, your impressions and perspective are important to me. In the meantime, please don't hesitate to reach out to your child's teachers or me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Kaplan".

David Kaplan
Principal