



WILLIAM JEFFERSON CLINTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

142 Hollywood Avenue, Sherwood, AR 72120 • 501.833.1200 • Website: clinton.pcssd.org • Principal: Felecia Hamilton

January 5, 2021

Dear Parents / Guardians of 5th Grade Students,

I am writing to remind you of a very exciting change to the way students will be placed starting January 5, 2021. Clinton Elementary School will departmentalize all subject areas in 5th grade. This translates into the following:

- Mr. McArthur will teach math and science
- Mrs. Marbury will teach language arts and social studies
- Ms. Hamilton will teach reading

There will be one traditional classroom setting. Traditional students are defined as students who come to school every day. The goal is to create a consistent learning environment. This means if you chose traditional learning and your student does not show up, they will be responsible for getting the assignments from Schoology. There will be no link for the student to join the class. We will make allowances for those students who have to go digital but those requests will have to be approved through the administration.

We will continue to follow CDC guidelines. Each student will begin the day with their homeroom teacher. Then, the teachers will rotate to each classroom to teach their designated subject(s). Of course, students will continue to have a special each day (music, art, or PE).

There are many advantages to departmentalization which include but not limited to:

1. **Specialization** Students receive instruction from teachers specialized in particular disciplines.
2. **Instructional teams** Students benefit because they are exposed to the instructional wisdom of more than one teacher.
3. **Transition** Departmentalization in the elementary schools aligns with middle school organization, better preparing students for next year.
4. **Depth of instruction** Teachers are able to complete more in-depth lessons.

Your child's education was the most important factor in this decision making process. Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Felecia M. Hamilton, Principal