



COLCHESTER SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Dear Parents and Guardians of Colchester Students:

From time to time the building principals of each Colchester School are asked questions regarding student placement. We are hopeful that this letter brings clarification to the district's policy and each building's procedure/process in general terms.

The Vermont Framework of Standards and Learning Opportunities defines what students in the State of Vermont should know and be able to do at various stages of their school careers. To this end, schools are charged with the responsibility for adopting curricula that provides students with opportunities to attain these standards as well as to place students in sections, classrooms or teams that will promote success in meeting the standards.

The placement process takes many factors into account. These factors include but are not limited to a student's academic readiness, past academic performance, social/emotional/behavioral growth, peer relations, learning style and a host of services needed and available to students. Samplings of these services are Special Education, Title One (math and reading), Section 504 and tutoring. Other factors considered in student placement in a classroom, team or section are input from teachers, parents and guidance.

We want you to know that each school has a process for placement and while each may be structured differently, especially at the various grade level buildings, all have common threads. The processes are fair and equitable to the highest degree possible. While the decisions of placement ultimately fall on the building principals, please know that many schools have placement teams whose responsibility is to assure balanced classrooms, teams or sections. Each school will provide information to parents as to its process.

We believe that our systems provide avenues to allow input from many sources on student placement. We also hope you can understand that due to the many variables in this process, some of which are confidential in nature, the specific placement for your child may not always be exactly what you desire. Thank you in advance for understanding this placement information.

Principal of Colchester High School
Principal of Colchester Middle School
Principal of Malletts Bay School
Principal of Porters Point School
Principal of Union Memorial School