

TAMAROA PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT #5

Phillip R. Hamil, Superintendent

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May 1, 2019

Dear Parents and TGS Community:

I would like to take this time to let everyone know that Mrs. Michelle Pursell will be leaving our district for an opportunity to teach in the Carbondale Elementary School District. The TGS family and I would like to wish Mrs. Pursell all of the best in her new endeavor. She has made a meaningful impact on the lives of our students and I am confident that she will continue to positively influence young people at her new school.

With the vacancy in the 1st grade classroom, much consideration has been put into how to best serve our students academically by placing teachers in the areas where they are able to make the most impact. Several factors such as class size, similarities in grade-level standards, developmental levels of students and areas of instructor expertise are all considered when moving teachers to new class assignments.

Next year it is likely that the combination of classes in the school will change due to the factors mentioned previously. Currently, 2nd and 3rd grade is combined and 5th and 6th grade is combined. We have created a schedule where the classes are combined for homeroom and subjects such as art and music. It is always our intention to keep the classes separate in core subjects such as math and language arts. Having each grade level receive instruction individually in the core subject areas is a high priority and will continue to be a top priority for the district.

Looking forward, Mrs. Witges has agreed to work with a combined 1st and 2nd grade for her homeroom and Mr. Plumlee will be leading a combined 3rd and 4th grade classroom. Again, the "combined" times will only be homeroom in the morning and during non-core classes such as art, music and PE. Each class will receive instruction independently for their grade level in math and language arts.

To aid in the upper grades and alleviate some of the class combinations, Mrs. Fagerland is going to be our new 5th grade teacher. There will likely be combinations of classes in non-core subjects, but it is a priority that all grade levels receive core subject instruction as a class on their own. The school will be posting a job opening for a new kindergarten teacher and would like to thank Mrs. Fagerland for her service in the kindergarten classroom over the years.

If you have any questions regarding our curriculum or educational programming, do not hesitate to contact me. I am always happy to find the best opportunities for our students and work with parents to provide clarity.

Sincerely,



Phillip R. Hamil
Superintendent