

HAZLET TOWNSHIP PUBLIC SCHOOLS



Office of the Superintendent of Schools

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April 10, 2019

Dear Parents:

The Multi-Grade classrooms at the elementary and 5/6 grade schools will not be in place for the 2019-2020 school year. As a frame of reference, the program began in 2015-2016 in grades 3 & 4 with the 5/6 schools following suit the next year.

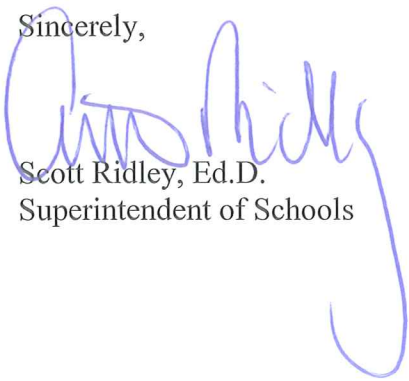
The Multi-Grade classroom prioritized a more student-centered, project-based instructional model, creating a collaborative classroom environment. Students had access to their own technology device (Chromebook, iPad) and the classroom design was outfitted with flexible seating conducive to learning. Students became digital citizens by using online tools such as Google Classroom, Khan Academy, IXL, Ten Marks and more. It was the dawn of "Personalized Learning" and Hazlet was at the forefront.

Since its inception, these specific, instructional practices have permeated throughout the schools and what we have learned through the Multi-Grade experience has been blended into every classroom in our elementary schools. Flexible seating, personalized learning, access to Chromebooks in the classroom, project-based learning and genius-hour are now essential practices across the District. As such, the need for a specific multi-grade designation is essentially redundant as all classes now prioritize these learning resources. Continuing as such would be analogous to installing individual air conditioning units to each room when the entire building is already cooled by a central system.

The teachers and staff that have taught in the Multi Grade will continue to share their experiences with their colleagues on how best to successfully implement these initiatives to empower all students to explore their passions and project-based approach to teaching and learning.

For additional information, please do not hesitate to reach out to your child's principal.

Sincerely,


Scott Ridley, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools