



# McGraw Central School District

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Dear McGraw Families:

For the 2022-2023 school year the Elementary School has an exciting opportunity to expand our current class options. In the fall we will have two First Grade classrooms, one Second Grade Classroom, and one Multiage Classroom of students in First and Second Grade (taught by Mrs. Bassett). We have been looking at our class numbers and different ways we could arrange classes to ensure smaller class sizes and optimum use of our resources. This letter serves as an opportunity to be considered for the Multiage Classroom for your first or second grader next year.

McGraw has utilized this model in the past with great success and high student achievement. Below are some of the researched advantages of having your student participate in a multiage classroom:

- An ideal model creates diverse yet balanced groupings of students of mixed ages with different abilities, including special needs and gifted students. The enhanced social and natural settings in multiage classrooms can help raise students' social and emotional skills (SEL).
- Students in multiage classrooms show significant gains in reading and language skills
- Evidence does suggest that children in multiage classrooms achieved a higher cognitive developmental level at a faster rate than those in classrooms of same-age peers
- Students of different ages in one classroom creates a caring environment, as it encourages older students to serve as role models or mentors to help their younger peers.

We have created a way for you to let us know your thoughts about your student's placement for next year using a QR code to answer a very basic survey. This will help us form the class lists. Although many of you may indicate that you would like your child to participate in the multiage classroom, there is limited space. Teachers and administration will do their best to accommodate requests. Please use the QR code to respond by: **Friday June 24<sup>th</sup>**. If you have any questions please contact Mrs. Prince at 607-836-3631.



Thank you!

Mrs. Prince