

# Milford Public School

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Dr. Rick Falkenstein  
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March 15, 2019

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Wednesday evening the board voted to broaden the limited send-receive we established with Kingwood last month to incorporate the 6th graders. After sending out the survey to parents when we initially decided to move forward with the send-receive for the 7th and 8th graders, we received feedback and public comment asking why we had not also included the 6th graders in this arrangement.

The answer is that we were solving for the 7th and 8th grade due to a staff departure and an imminent retirement that vacated those class levels - so we were acting on an opportunity that had presented itself to us that would not require any additional staffing reductions. By incorporating the 6th grade, this may not still be true.

In the spirit of responding to the parents desire and in particular after attending the open house - it is clear that our students will benefit from the transition sooner rather than later from the perspective of curriculum and testing to enable for honors participation, extra-curricular and co-curricular activities that begin in the 6th grade and the fact that Kingwood operates a middle school comprised of the 6th, 7th and 8th grades. It just makes sense.

The board will begin to move forward and work out the logistics of this expanded arrangement - beginning with the Kingwood Open House and joint dance this week. On March 28, 2019 Kingwood 5th, 6th and 7th grade students will visit Milford to meet the students and learn about our culture. Many thanks go out to the PTO for funding a special lunch that day. In April Milford 5th, 6th and 7th grade students will visit Kingwood to engage in activities there. Additional joint field trips, with various grade levels, are also planned this year.

I know that while we have some trepidation among some of our parents - something only natural with a change of this magnitude - overall there is a lot of enthusiasm (in particular among the students) for this wonderful opportunity for the Milford middle-school students.

Please reach out to me at any time should you have any questions or concerns as we embark on this journey together.

Sincerely,

Teresa Kane  
President, Board of Education  
Milford Public School