Welcome to the first edition of the Kingston City School District Transitions newsletter.

This newsletter will be distributed once a month from October 2012 – June 2013 to communicate important information to parents and students about the redistricting process as it becomes available. Past editions will be archived for reference at www.kingstoncityschools.org/redistricting.

During an August 30, 2012 Board of Education meeting, Trustees unanimously endorsed a redistricting plan to reconfigure education in the Kingston City School District. Community members are encouraged to visit the District website, www.kingstoncityschools.org, if they would like to learn more details on the history of the redistricting process.

THE PLAN
Current fourth grade students will attend a 5-8 Middle School in September 2013, and students from Anna Devine, Zena, and Sophie Finn Elementary Schools will be relocated to neighboring schools. Students who will be entering Kindergarten – Grade 3 at George Washington, JFK, Myer, Edson, Chambers, and Crosby Elementary Schools will not be redistricted.

Anna Devine Elementary School
345 Mountain View Avenue, Port Ewen, NY
845-338-1945
Principal Errin Parese

Robert R. Graves Elementary School
345 Mountain View Avenue, Port Ewen, NY
845-338-1945
Principal Errin Parese

Edward R. Crosby Elementary School
767 Neighborhood Road, Lake Katrine, NY
845-382-2633
Principal Marie Anderson

Harry L. Edson Elementary School
116 Merilina Avenue, Kingston, NY
845-338-6990
Principal William Krupp
Meet the 5-8 Building Leaders

Principal Julie Linton, J. Watson Bailey Middle School

**Educational Experience:** A former Spanish teacher at the middle and high school levels, Mrs. Linton spent the first 18 years of her career in education in the classroom. She has served as an administrator in the Kingston City School District since 2006, first working as an assistant principal at Kingston High School before joining the J. Watson Bailey Middle School community in 2007.

**Why 5-8?:** “I’m excited to be able to reach the students at a younger age, which will help us to secure a real middle school philosophy for our building. With grades 5/6 and 7/8 forming communities, we will have more opportunities to address the needs of the entire child.”

Principal Jo Burruby, M. Clifford Miller Middle School

**Educational Experience:** After spending 10 years as a physical education teacher and 5 years as an assistant principal in the Millbrook School District, Ms. Burruby served as an administrator in Webutuck and Highland Central School Districts before joining the M. Clifford Miller Middle School community.

**Why 5-8?:** “Prior to the reconfiguration, students were spending two of their three years in Middle School transitioning – either transitioning into the school community in sixth grade or transitioning out in eighth grade. The 5-8 Model will give us more time to cultivate a sense of belonging with students and to build up the crucial, positive relationships that educators know are key to academic and social success.”

**FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

**Q** Many parents whose children went to Robert Graves school and whose sixth or seventh graders now attend Miller want to know if these children can stay at Miller. With your decision to feed Robert Graves students into Bailey, these parents are concerned that their children will have to switch schools next year.

**A** Students will remain in the school that they currently attend. Sixth and seventh grade students from Robert Graves who attend Miller Middle School will finish eighth grade at Miller Middle School. Students who entered fifth grade in September of 2012 at Robert Graves will attend Bailey Middle School.

**Q** What if I have a sixth grade student who currently attends Miller and a fifth grade student who attends Robert Graves? Will I have the option of sending both my students to Miller Middle School?

**A** Yes, unique circumstances will be given special consideration. If you feel the redistricting process is creating a unique circumstance for your family, please contact Sandy Miller in the Office of Student Services at 845-943-3007.

**MIDDLE SCHOOL FEEDER PATTERNS**

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<tr>
<th>J. Watson Bailey Middle School</th>
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<td>Anna Devine</td>
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**SPOTLIGHT ON 5TH GRADE FOREIGN LANGUAGE**

Mrs. Linton visits the Middle School library with eighth grade students Judith Garcia, Alvin Davis, Dayvon Casiano, and Jazmin Indelicato.

Ms. Burruby stands near Miller’s anti-bullying pledge with seventh grade students Kassadi Williams, Ella Heidecker, Sydney Miller, and Jordan Gregory.

**IN THE NEXT ISSUE:** Spotlight on 5th Grade Foreign Language