



February 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Your child is approaching an important transitional time in their school career. Leaving elementary school and entering middle school involves many changes. One significant difference is that all middle school students change classes and teachers as they move through the school day. While it may take a while to adjust to this difference, fifth graders possess an enthusiasm that assists them in making this transition. One of the classes your fifth grader will be able to take at Dana is an elective class. The purpose of this letter is to inform you of the elective choices and to collect information regarding your child's preference.

We are providing you with links to an **Informational Elective Video**, **Elective Information Sheet**, and **5th Grade Online Schedule Planning Form for 2021-2022**. Please watch the video and review the list of elective choices with your child. As we create student schedules over the upcoming months we will make every effort possible to assign preferred electives. However, please know there are no guarantees. Help us with placing your student by selecting your child's 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th choices on your child's online planning form.

Students and parents are required to visit each of the links provided.

Informational Elective Video - <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1QbcY7HKIONgxUYI0luhLGMr5tJs-kGpx/view>
Elective Information Sheet - <https://sites.google.com/sandi.net/danavirtualcounselingcenter/electives>
Online Schedule Planning Form for 2021-2022 - <https://forms.gle/nKg7gPo7hhC8YdB19>

In late August, every Dana student will receive a class schedule at our school orientation. The schedule will provide the following information: assigned classes, teacher name, room number, and time of class. Your child's schedule is created using your student's academic performance levels and elective preferences. Information regarding academic performance is collected from fourth grade teachers and district test scores.

Please understand that we strive to give your child his/her first elective choice but our number one priority is appropriate placement in the core subjects. This can be difficult because many of our electives are only offered once or twice each day. For example, if the only period available for a math class and for an elective class were the same period, priority goes to the core subject class; math. **Our top priority when creating student schedules is appropriate placement in Language Arts and Math classes.**

Elective classes with limited interest may not be offered. For example, if an elective currently listed on the planning form has too few students requesting it, it will be cancelled. If this should occur, we will automatically attempt the next choice.

Please assist your child in making his/her elective choices and submit the google form no later than **Friday, February 19th**. We will not accept course request changes after the Schedule Planning Form deadline. Students who do not provide five elective choices or do not submit their form at all run the risk of not receiving an elective they desire.

Thank you for your assistance. I look forward to having you join the Dana family next year!

Sincerely,

Scott Irwin
Principal