



Monticello Central School District

237 Forestburgh Road, Monticello, NY 12701

TEL: 845-794-7700 FAX: 845-794-7710 www.monticelloschools.net

Dr. Patrick Michel, *Superintendent of Schools*

Mrs. Alyce C. Van Etten, *President - Board of Education*

Dr. Patrick Michel, Superintendent
pmichel@k12mcsd.net

“Building Excellence Through Trust”

April 26, 2010

Dear Parent or Guardian:

We sincerely hope you are having a safe and productive spring. As most people are aware, due to the significant cuts in state aid, the Board of Education adopted a budget that reorganizes our elementary schools. As of September 2010, we will be closing the Duggan School and reassigning students.

In addition, the Board had requested that an internal study be conducted to explore the possibility of converting the Rutherford and Cooke Elementary Schools to a kindergarten through grade 5 format. Presently, Cooke houses students in grades K-2 and Rutherford houses students in grades 3-5. This K-5 conversion has been discussed for the past two years and after weighing many factors, a recommendation will be made to the Board to move forward with the conversion. We feel that this will be beneficial to students, families and the community. It will also create consistency in the elementary structure throughout our district.

How will this affect you and your family? If your child is entering or attending the Cooke or Rutherford Elementary School in September, he or she will be placed in one of those two schools. If your children presently attend Duggan, they will be assigned to either Cooke or Rutherford for their remaining K-5 experience. Students from Rock Hill and Glen Wild presently attending Cooke and Rutherford will be reassigned to the Chase Elementary School in Wurtsboro, which is already K-5.

In order to support students and families throughout this process, the district in cooperation with the EPIC Parent Center, will be hosting a series of open houses and welcoming events in all our elementary schools. These events will be held after the New York State testing cycle is completed in mid-May. During the next two weeks, you will receive the school assignments for your children. This will give you the opportunity to contact the building principal, attend these events, tour the building, meet teachers and staff, and discuss your children's needs with the school leadership.

We want to thank you in advance for your support during this transition. If you have any questions, please contact your child's elementary school principal or the district office.

Sincerely,
Dr. Patrick Michel
Superintendent of Schools