



# NORWALK CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Office of the Superintendent

134 Benedict Avenue | Norwalk, Ohio 44857 | 419-668-2779

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Dear Parents,

As the end of the school year approaches, we are beginning the formal process of creating class lists for the coming school year. This is a lengthy and complex process. In this school district the staff will spend many hours preparing class lists that are balanced and contain a mixture of abilities and behaviors in order to form a heterogeneous or mixed learning environment.

We believe that parental input is important. Please describe your child's learning strengths and needs and the type of classroom environment in which you feel your child best achieves on the following form. If you wish to name specific names, please list two teachers whom you believe will equally meet your child's needs. The deadline for this process is June 1.

When we enter into the class list process, parent information will be considered as an important factor. However, all factors are considered in creating an effective learning environment. This may require the assignment of students to classrooms other than the ones requested by parents.

Some things we consider when creating the classroom:

- Assign students to teachers who can best meet individual student's needs by matching teaching and learning styles.
- Structure classes to be heterogeneous.
- Assign an equal number of students to each section of a given grade level.
- If possible, distribute an even number of boys and girls to each classroom.
- Group students who work well together.
- Separate students who do not work well together.

The principals and teachers in the Norwalk City School District pride themselves on knowing your children. We also pride ourselves on the high caliber of our teachers. We trust our process and our knowledge of your child, combined with your input, will serve him or her well.



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## Parent Request Form

Parent Name \_\_\_\_\_

Child's Name \_\_\_\_\_

School \_\_\_\_\_

Grade Level (next year) \_\_\_\_\_

### Parent Identification of Educational Needs (Deadline of June 1<sup>st</sup>)

Please describe your child's learning strengths and needs and the type of learning environment that your child best achieves: \_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_

There is no right or wrong learning style...your children may not share your best learning style. In the Norwalk City School District we work hard to help identify individual learning styles and also to match the type of interventions and support for those individual styles.

Please check the learning style that *best fits* your child:

**Visual:** Visual learners learn best by watching. They use images to remember, creating a picture in their head. To learn spelling they may try to picture the way a word looks.

A visual learner may also enjoy: art and drawing; reading maps, charts and diagrams. Teaching methods for a visual learner might be: making flash cards; drawing symbols and pictures; highlighting key words; using to-do-lists, assignment logs and written notes.

**Auditory:** Auditory learners benefit from traditional teaching techniques. They learn well when directions are read aloud or information is presented and requested verbally. They remember facts when presented and requested verbally. They also remember facts when presented in a poem, song or melody.

Auditory learners like to: tell stories and jokes; to play word games and to use tape recorders. Teaching methods for an auditory learner might include: reading out loud together; encouraging them to read out loud when they study; studying with a partner so they can "discuss" the answers and writing a sequence of steps to solve a problem and then saying steps out loud.

**Physical (Kinesthetic):** Physical learners learn best through movement and physical manipulation. They like to find out how things work and want to touch, feel and experience what they are learning. Most kindergartners are physical learners and by first or second grade their learning styles change to visual or auditory. But, some students retain that physical learning throughout their formal education and through adulthood.

Physical learners may also need to manipulate, handle and try things out; they may have a shorter attention span, needing to move while learning and for you to show them things instead of telling them about it. Teaching methods include: letting them participate in science or math labs; creating and participating in plays or dramatic productions; going on field trips; creating skits or dances. They need to be encouraged to take notes, make diagrams and models.

What other recommendations would you like to make regarding your child and his or her individual learning needs?

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Return completed form to Norwalk City School District ~ Office of the Supt. by email to [widmanb@norwalktruckers.net](mailto:widmanb@norwalktruckers.net) or by regular mail: 134 Benedict Ave., Norwalk, Ohio 44857