



# Huron-Superior Catholic

## DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

### PROCEDURAL GUIDELINES COMBINED GRADE PLACEMENT

1. The principal of a school, subject to the appropriate supervisory officer, shall place students within a combined grade organization whenever a selection of students will be necessary. (e.g., when there is a straight grade and a combined grade at the same level, such as grade 2 and grade 2 and 3).
2. The principal shall consult the teacher(s) to determine each student's profile, ability, learning style, social/emotional behaviour, and any other pertinent information. This information shall be considered in the selection of students being placed in a combined grade.
3. The principal shall endeavour to assure that the students placed in a combined grade classroom organization are selected in such a manner as to provide a "balanced" grouping. To achieve this balance, principals will consider the following factors: number of students in each grade, number of boys and girls in the class, social skills of the students, relationships with peers, level of student achievement in literacy and math, students' strengths and needs, and students' interests. Principals may choose to use the sample letter to parents in Appendix A and the Ministry Publication on Combined Grades in Appendix B to communicate this to parents.
4. The principal may be able to organize the classes in their school so that the classes of combined grades have a smaller number of students in them than do single-grade classes.
5. Once classroom placements have been determined, parents will be notified of their child's classroom placement.

For more information on combined grades, consult the Ministry of Education's 2007 publication *Combined Grades: Strategies to Reach a Range of Learners in Kindergarten to Grade 6*.