

Elementary Guidelines Related to Departmentalization Starting With the 2011 – 2012 School Year

Basic Definitions:

1. Departmentalization is when a child has two or more teachers responsible for teaching the core academic subjects where either the child and/or the teacher move from one self-contained classroom to another self-contained classroom.
2. Team teaching is when a child has two or more teachers working together in the same physical space in order to teach the core subjects. An example of this type of teaching is when a physical space is divided by a movable partition and the partition is open so that students can receive instructional support from both teachers.
3. Self-contained is when the same teacher is responsible for teaching all core academic subjects to the child.

Appropriate Configurations per grade level:

1. Kindergarten – Self-contained
2. First Grade – Self-contained
3. Second Grade – Self-contained or Team Teaching (2 teachers maximum)
4. Third Grade – Self-contained, Team Teaching (2 teachers), or Departmentalization
5. Fourth Grade – Self-contained, Team Teaching (2 teachers), or Departmentalization

Original document date:
July 6, 2011