


Stanwood Camano School District

TO: Board of Directors
FROM: Pam Gentz 
SUBJECT: Combining Elementary ASSIST Classrooms
DATE: April 19, 2016
TYPE: Action Needed

I am requesting that the Board approve the combining of the two elementary ASSIST classes into one. Currently we have one class located at Twin City Elementary and the other class is located at Utsalady Elementary. We would like to combine these two classes into one and have it located at Utsalady Elementary. A team of special education staff and the two building principals researched this option and found the following reasons to move forward with this request:

- We will be better able to group students based on their abilities, ages and sensory needs
- Students will be better supported by two teachers with expertise in different areas
- Students will be better able to develop relationships with other students their own age and/or developmental level
- Students will be provided a broader continuum of instructional opportunities with varying degrees of support
- Students will have access to the Camano Island Community Center
- Students will have access to the inclusion playground and additional classroom spaces
- Parents will have broader opportunities to connect with other parents in the program

Recommendation: To approve this request to combine these two classrooms into one program at Utsalady Elementary.