

The Dovetail program at Edmunds Elementary School will no longer accept incoming students. The Dovetail program is beginning a three-year phase out. During the 2008-2009 school year the Dovetail program will not be accepting a new kindergarten class. Next year Dovetail will consist of two classrooms, one a first grade and one a second grade. In its last year 2009-2010, the program will be housed in one classroom for the second graders.

Nine years ago, Dovetail was created as a three-year non-graded primary unit. The district goals were to offer school choice to Burlington families, accommodate over crowding in schools, and integrate children from all six-neighborhood schools. Dovetail was designed to reflect the socio-economic and cultural diversity of the City of Burlington.

There are several reasons for Dovetail's closure. One is that Ms. Sadler, one of the three Dovetail teachers will be retiring at the end of the 2007-2008 school year. Another is the new initiatives being explored in the district related to socio-economic equity will achieve the diversity represented in Dovetail. The third reason is that it has become harder to fill the allotted spots from schools in the new north end. The fourth reason is that families move so often that getting a three year commitment is challenging.

As a result of the above circumstances in the district, the teachers and principal decided it was time to phase the program out.