

☀️ Tips for Parents/Guardians (All Grades)

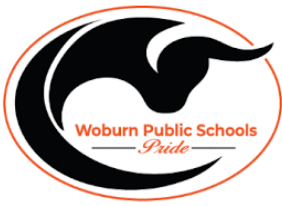
- **Stay calm and reassuring.** Your child will take emotional cues from you.
- **Be honest but simple.** Share age-appropriate details.
- **Acknowledge feelings.** Let them know it's okay to feel sad, nervous, or even excited.
- **Focus on what stays the same.** Routines, family, and support systems will continue.
- **Involve them (a little).** Let them help pick out supplies, visit the new school, or meet the new teacher if possible.
- **Keep listening.** Children may revisit the topic over time—especially around transitions or milestones.

🧸 Pre-K (Ages 3–4)

Developmental Traits: Very concrete thinkers, thrive on routine, need emotional security.

Talking Points:

- "You might go to a different school soon, but it will have toys and books and kind teachers just like this one!"
- "We will help you every day."
- "Your new teacher will be excited to meet you and help you learn."
- "It's okay to feel a little wiggly about new things—we'll do it together."



Tips:

- Keep explanations very simple.
 - Use play and storytime to explore feelings.
 - Visit the new school if possible to build comfort.
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Grades K–1 (Ages 5–6)

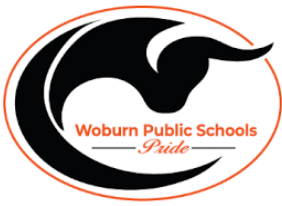
Developmental Traits: Still developing emotional regulation, beginning to understand cause/effect.

Talking Points:

- "The people in charge of schools are making some changes so that everyone has enough space and help to learn."
- "You might go to a new school, but you'll still have teachers who care and new friends to meet!"
- "We will be with you every step of the way."

Tips:

- Reassure them that they will be safe and cared for.
 - Acknowledge feelings and use drawings or stories to explore change.
 - Keep bedtime and morning routines consistent.
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Grades 2–3 (Ages 7–8)

Developmental Traits: Increased curiosity, care about fairness, beginning logical thinking.

Talking Points:

- "Redistricting means the school district is figuring out how to make sure all schools have the right number of students."
- "Sometimes that means students go to a different school so classrooms aren't too full."
- "It's okay to feel unsure. We'll learn about your new school and meet new people together."

Tips:

- Give simple explanations about fairness and logistics.
 - Talk openly about emotions and be available for follow-up conversations.
 - Emphasize continuity (still learning, still supported).
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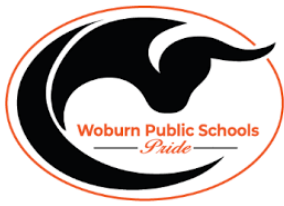


Grades 4–5 (Ages 9–11)

Developmental Traits: More abstract thinking, value peer relationships, crave input and autonomy.

Talking Points:

- "The district leaders looked at all the schools and are making changes to make things more fair for all students."
- "You might be going to a different school next year. I know that's a big change."



- "Let's talk about what's worrying you, and maybe what you're curious or hopeful about too."
- "You'll still have friends, and you'll also make new ones. Change can be hard, but it can also be exciting."

Tips:

- Encourage them to ask questions and share concerns.
- Explore the new school together.
- Empower them with choices where possible (e.g., choosing supplies or activities).

Reassuring Phrases for All Ages

- "No matter what school you go to, we're always here for you."
- "You can always talk to us if you're feeling worried or have questions."
- "Even if some things change, the most important things stay the same—like how much we love you."