

Have you ever felt like you had a hard time fitting in somewhere new or ever felt like you didn't belong because you didn't know something? That's how I felt going to a new school from one I had a great connection to. I went to John Moffet elementary school growing up. It was a calm and older neighborhood public school, with a big schoolyard and small building. There was even a playground and turf in the giant yard. I used to run from one side of the school's gate to the other. There was a gym, a computer lab in the school, and a library that I almost never went into. Most of my family went there when they were kids and they even had the same teachers as I did, and I think they went to that school and they wanted to send me too. I made great friends going to that school and I still talk to some of them. There were Yousef and Ruben, Yousef was funny and always made jokes, and he also got into trouble a lot more than other people. Ruben was a quieter kid and nice but when the teacher was looking away he could not stop talking and got in trouble for it. The teachers also trusted me and if they ever needed to send a student to give something to the office or other classes they would send me. I loved that school and it was the hardest thing to leave it. The school only went up to 5th grade and I was in John Moffet school since kindergarten and I had to leave during middle school.

I went to William H. Hunter Elementary school after graduating from or I would say left Moffet. The first few days of going to that school were the most awkward and strange. I saw all these new faces, unfamiliar faces, none of them which I knew. On the first day of school, I sat in a random seat in the back of the class just so I wouldn't stand out. Everyone was talking to one another and was probably the only person not talking to someone. I was the only person in the class who didn't know someone. Our teacher sat in the front of the class and let the students talk to each other, something the teachers at our old school wouldn't. The first thing the teacher did was make me stand up and introduce myself. I barely wanted to talk in class and now my teacher is making me talk in front of it. After doing that awkward mess of a speech I sat back down and continued with class. When we then started to learn stuff that's when I started to feel like I didn't fit in. I already felt like I didn't fit in but after seeing how different the teaching was I felt like I was behind everyone else. The one I felt like I was the most behind in was math, there were all these equations I knew nothing about and our teacher even said we should have learned this last year.

When I was behind I didn't really ask for help and stayed to myself and taught everything to myself. When I really did need help I would ask classmates, that's how I met some of my greatest friends that I still talk to every day. They were Micheal and Gabriel, two very smart and fun people to hang around while being in that school. They helped me fit in and showed me how to do the things I didn't know how to do. It was for them to explain how to do the work since they have both been in that school since kindergarten. I was able to be myself around them and I was able to be myself in the school. After being in the school for about 4 months I felt like I belonged and fit right in. I was able to build the connection in that school as I did in Moffet and build a connection with Micheal and Gabriel as I did with Ruben and Yousef. Even though it was different I got used to it. It's hard trying to fit in or belong somewhere when you don't know anything about it. I am glad I was able to make Hunter a place where I belonged.