

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome! I am pleased to take this opportunity to introduce myself and welcome your child to second grade. My name is Sarah Hansen and I will be your child's teacher this year. I graduated from the University of Akron in 2001 with a Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education. I am certified for grades 1- 8. I also graduated with honors from the University of Phoenix in May 2006 with a Master's degree in Curriculum and Instruction.

This is the beginning of my seventh year at Washington Park Community School. I spent my first two years here as the Title One Teacher and have spent the past four years teaching second grade. I have had the privilege to work with the wonderful staff, students, and parents since the school first opened. I look forward to another great school year with you and your child.

I believe a good learning experience in school is built on a cooperative effort between parent (guardian), child, and teacher. With this belief in mind, I hope to work closely with you to assure that your child gets the most out of our year together.

I do not have to tell you that a challenging world waits your child. I feel that it is our responsibility to work as a team in order to prepare your child for success in this world as a productive, educated citizen. My expectations for academics and behavior are high. The work will be challenging, but I structure assignments so that students receive many opportunities to experience success. If students put forth effort, they will be successful.

I am committed to creating an upbeat and productive classroom environment. The students will play an active role in their own learning to make the work meaningful. I want to engage their interests and get students excited about learning. I want them to take pride and ownership over their work. School is an exciting place! I am counting on their participation and enthusiasm to help shape and form our classroom.

I would like to encourage regular communication with you throughout the year. I will be sending home monthly newsletters to alert you of events, activities, and units that we are learning in the classroom. The students' homework folders will also have a place where we can communicate. If you would like to have a phone or in-person conference regarding questions, comments, or concerns about your child's progress, please feel free to contact me at school to set up an appointment.

Looking forward to educating your child,

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Mrs. Sarah Hansen M.Ed.