

Hello 5th Grade Families,

#### About Mrs. Weaver

I am thrilled to be your child's math, science, and homeroom teacher this year! I am passionate about engaging students in meaningful learning opportunities and creating a joyful classroom environment with a strong sense of community. I strive to make students feel safe to take risks and grow, and get to know each child on a personal level. If you walk into my classroom, you'll often see a buzz of learning excitement and students frequently collaborating with one another to grapple with challenging content.

I have been teaching grades 3-5 since 2008, and have taught in 4 districts in Colorado and California. For the last 8 years I have taught third grade here at Cory and I feel so fortunate to work at this amazing school. I am excited to embark on a new adventure as a fourth and fifth grade math teacher. I couldn't pass up the chance to get to teach more of my favorite content area!

#### **Educational Background:**

- BA in English Literature: CU Boulder
- MA in Educational Psychology and teaching credential: CU Denver
- EdD in Leadership for Educational Equity: CU Denver
- Gifted and Talented Specialist

I am a Colorado native and live in Centennial with my husband, Ross, and our three children: Logan, Wyatt, and Josie. Logan is in sixth grade, Wyatt is in fourth grade, and Josie is in kindergarten. When I am not teaching, you will often find me cheering on my kids at sporting events and walking our dog, Ruby. I also love to run, ski, camp, hike, mountain bike, and travel whenever I get the chance.

#### About Ms. Miller:

I am so excited to be your child's literacy teacher this year! I can't wait to share my love of reading and writing with your kids, and help them develop their own passion for language. My classroom is a safe, welcoming, and engaging place, where kids are encouraged to ask questions, try new things, make mistakes, and have fun. I focus on creating a strong community of learners, where kids are invested in their own growth, as well as the growth of their classmates. We celebrate one another daily, and create lasting memories.

I have been teaching since 2008, when I began my career in Washington, DC. I have taught grades 4-8 throughout my career, but grades 4 and 5 are definitely my favorite. This is my 6th year teaching at Cory, and I just adore this community.

#### **Educational Background:**

- BS in Middle Childhood Education
- M.Ed. in Curriculum and Instruction: Literacy Specialist
- Endorsements: Elementary Education, Middle School Language Arts, Middle School Social Studies, Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Learners, Reading Teacher, Reading Specialist, Gifted and Talented Specialist

I am a Detroit native, and lived on the east coast for over ten years before moving to Colorado in 2019. I live in Thornton with my old man animals, Rudy (dog) and Bleaker (cat). I also have a horse named Poppy who lives close by and keeps me very busy. In my free time, I enjoy reading, writing, hiking, horseback riding, and spending time with friends and family.

### **Back to School Night:**

Stop by Room 202 and 203 any time between 5:30-6:00 pm on Thursday, August 15th. Popsicles with the Principal will follow at 6:15 pm on the playground. Please leave school supplies at home. Your child should bring supplies on the first day of school. If you ordered supply kits, your child will unpack those on the first day as well.

### **Back to School Night Video:**

We will be sending out Back To School Night video presentations on Wednesday with important information about curriculum, policies, etc. Please be sure to watch!

### **Pick Up & Drop Off**

Bell time for next year 8:15-3:15 BUT, students can enter the building at 8:10

#### Start of the Day

- Students can be dropped off at the playground at 8:10 without supervision, students must be with a guardian prior to this. This includes walkers, bikers and kiss and go.
- 8:10 is the first bell and 8:15 is the tardy bell. All students who come to school after 8:15 will need to get a pass from the front office.
- 4th and 5th grade will enter & exit through the south doors on the playground.

#### End of Day

- 3:15 Dismissal - students may not stay and play without an adult present.
- Supervision will end at 3:25 and all remaining students will be taken to the office to contact family.

#### Kiss and Go Reminders

- Please remember that all pick ups and drop off will be done on the NORTH side of Iowa.
- We do not want anyone crossing the street unless at a crosswalk.
- Safety for ALL is our priority.

### **Supplies**

If you ordered supplies for your child, they should arrive on the first day of school. If you did not order a box, no worries, here is a [list of supplies](#) that we are requesting. If your child needs any support in getting supplies or if you would like to donate extra supplies, please contact me directly and we will work to ensure all students have a successful start to the school year.

**Snacks:** Fifth graders will have recess then lunch starting at 12:00 pm this year. We encourage students to bring a healthy snack to eat during the morning. Something quick and easy that does NOT require silverware and has a minimum of mess, is ideal. Please, no chips or junk food and no peanuts due to allergies.

**Drinks:** Students should bring a reusable water bottle, labeled with their name (no glass,

please). Bottles that can close tightly without leaks are preferred. Juice or other drinks are not allowed in the classroom, but students may bring those types of drinks to lunch.

## 5th Grade Content

### MATH

We will begin our year extending students' understanding about place value. During our first module, students will learn about base ten from millions to thousandths. They will use exponents to name place value units and will work with powers of ten.

#### Key 5th Grade Math Concepts:

- Deepening understanding of the place value system
- Operations with multi-digit whole numbers and decimals to hundredths
- Equivalent fractions as a strategy to add and subtract fractions
- Multiply and divide fractions
- Understand concepts of volume and relate to multiplication and division
- Graph points in the coordinate plane to solve real-world and mathematical problems

### SCIENCE

We will be learning about space, sound, energy, and the human body this year!

### LITERACY

**Reading:** All incoming 5<sup>th</sup> grade students should read chapter-length fiction or nonfiction books that are at or above grade level. NewsELA is a great tool for students to read non-fiction current events articles online ([www.newsela.com](http://www.newsela.com) - use the free version/no account necessary).

- Our first two literacy units focus on the topics of the American Revolution and human rights around the globe, through high-level novel analysis, reader's theater, and advanced multi-paragraph informational writing. Some recommended resources that could be interesting at-home reads to prepare for 5th grade curriculum are:
  - Events Leading to the American Revolution by Linda Wade
  - African Americans and American Indians Fighting the Revolutionary War by John Miklos
  - Climbing Out of the Great Depression by Sean Price
  - Poetry for Young People: Maya Angelou

**Writing:** Incoming 5th grade students must capitalize correctly, write in complete sentences and use end punctuation correctly. They should have mastered paragraphs and be able to write multi-paragraph essays. In nonfiction writing, students should be comfortable citing evidence to support their thinking and be able to find the main ideas of texts and articles.

In partnership,  
Sarah Weaver and Meghan Miller