

Hello 5th Grade Families,

We're so excited for another great year of learning with this crew. To our new families, welcome!

About Mrs. Weaver:

I am thrilled to be your child's math, science, social studies, 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 four districts in Colorado and California. This will be my tenth year of teaching at Cory. I spent 8 years teaching third grade before making the switch to teach fourth and fifth grade math/science/social studies last year.

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 seventh grade, Wyatt is in fifth grade, and Josie is in first grade this year. When I am not teaching, you will often find me cheering on my kids at MANY 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 7th 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 dog, Rudy. I also have a foster dog at the moment named Lady. She has some medical needs, so she may end up as a permanent member of my family....only time will tell! In my free time, I enjoy reading, writing, hiking, horseback riding, and spending time with friends and family.

Back to School Night:

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 8:05 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

This year we are excited to implement a new math curriculum called Illustrative Math. This is a problem-based curriculum where students will dig in and develop critical thinking skills along the way.

This is our first year of implementing the new Illustrative Math curriculum district-wide. This is a problem-based curriculum where students will learn important critical thinking skills and real-world application.

5th Grade Math Units:

- Finding Volume
- Fractions as Quotients and Fraction Multiplication
- Multiplying and Dividing Fractions
- Wrapping Up Multiplication and Division with Multi-digit Numbers
- Place Value Patterns and Decimal Operations
- More Decimal and Fraction Operations
- Shapes on the Coordinate Plane
- Putting it All Together

SCIENCE and SOCIAL STUDIES UNITS

Science
Ecosystem Restoration
Earth's Features
Earth's Systems
Modeling Matter
Social Studies
Native Americans
Colonial America & Revolution
Rights and Responsibilities
Ameritowne (May)

LITERACY

Reading: All incoming 5th 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 - use the free version/no account necessary).

This year, students will engage with the CKLA curriculum to learn about various topics through building background knowledge. This is a comprehensive literacy curriculum that will help students strengthen their reading, writing, speaking, listening, and vocabulary skills through both individual and collaborative work.

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