

Dear families,

Hello! I am so excited to be starting my fifth year teaching here at Lincoln. Things have changed and yet remain the same! I survived my first year teaching fifth grade and loved it more than I could have ever expected! I learned a lot and now that I know what to expect, this year should be a lot of fun for everyone!

I wanted to just briefly introduce myself and let you know that I take educating your child very seriously. Teaching isn't just a job to me, it's everything that I am, and I will do all that I can to work with you to ensure that your child have the best year possible.

I student taught in the fall of 2000 in Redner. I was in a third grade classroom and fell in love with third grade. I graduated from EMU in December of 2000 and was hired as Lois Jansen's replacement for the remainder of the 2000-2001 school year. It was the most difficult teaching assignment that I've ever encountered. I stayed at Redner for the next year and stayed with third grade. The following year I was moved over to Childs, where I also taught third grade. Many of you have children that were in my classroom or in Mrs. Peterson's class. Last year I was given the opportunity to move to fifth grade and I jumped right on it!

I have my Masters in Curriculum and Instruction, as well as a Masters in Administration and Supervision. Though both degrees are in the areas of educational leadership, I have no desire to leave the profession. I enjoy teaching too much to leave. Maybe someday I'll give leadership a try, but for now I am

extremely happy teaching and spending my days with children, rather than adults.

This year I will have at least one (possibly two) student teacher. She'll be with us from August through December. I've very excited to have a student teacher, as I always vowed that when the day came that I was able to have a student teacher, I would have one and make their placement the best ever. You'll be receiving a note from her, where she'll tell you about herself. This will be a learning experience for all of us, as she's never student taught, I've never had a student teacher, and your children have never had me as a fifth grade teacher!

You'll find that I tend to run the classroom like a close family. I do my best to cultivate all that a family has, and together we grow and develop into a family community. I enjoy doing outside of school things with my students (last year we met for a movie and a Detroit Tiger game). Please help me make this year as comfortable and exciting for your child as I can. I'll be sending home some forms that I'd appreciate you taking time to fill out; they're all about your child! I also would like to invite all of you to come up to the school and meet me and check out the classroom before the year starts. I'll be there starting the week of the 15th (hopefully) and you're more than welcome to come in and say hello!

Some things that you can look forward to this year include:

- A 5th grade trip (overnight) to someplace cool like COSI
- A Thanksgiving potluck (starting thinking about what you'd like to bring)
- Meeting at the movies as a class outside of school
- Meeting at Comerica Park for a Tiger game
- A trip to Rolling Hills to celebrate the year
- Constant encouragement and praise!
- Weekly newsletters with all the happenings in our classroom
- An awesome website dedicated to our classroom!
- Deep discussions about middle school and how to conquer fears
- A teacher that follows the LCS and state curriculum ☺
- A classroom rich in literacy—we've got sooooo many books!! Reading is

the key to school success!

- A student/parent/teacher relationship that doesn't end in June! I'm always here for you!!!
- Best of all we have Esio Trot... our tortoise!!!

I look forward to getting to know you more and sharing some wonderful memories with you! Please feel free to contact me via e-mail at grade5teacher@gmail.com.

Thanks!!

Ms. Kramer