

Dear Fifth Grade Students and Families-

Welcome to Highcrest Middle School and the 2016-17 School Year!

My name is Elisabeth Collins and I am excited to be your homeroom teacher! This year I will be teaching in **House 1 - Team 2**. You will also have me as your teacher for Science and possibly Math and Social Studies too! Another teacher is lucky to have you for your Language Arts and World Language classes. You'll spend time in other classes like Physical Education, and Related Arts (Music, Art, Drama, & Creative Communications).

There will be many other ways to get involved at Highcrest by joining activities available throughout the year. You will be able to participate in band, orchestra, choir, or a variety of clubs and sports that are offered after school.

It will be a busy first week of school. We'll spend the first few days getting to know the Highcrest building, your fellow classmates, your new iPad, locker combination, and everything else! Don't worry, we'll have time to discover the answers to all your questions and get you feeling comfortable. Our first day of school will be a **half-day (8:49-11:45) on Tuesday, September 5th**. We will meet in **Room 143, your Homeroom**, and go through everything you'll need to know, including your classmates, other teachers, and your schedule. **Please bring your school supplies and iPad with you on the first day!**

I'm excited to get to know all about you this year. I'll give you a head start with getting to know me! This will be my second year of teaching at Highcrest and my sixth year teaching overall. I previously taught fifth grade in Northbrook and am enjoying teaching Middle School to fifth graders in Wilmette! I also grew up in Northbrook and went to Glenbrook North High School. I attended college and played Softball in New York at Hofstra University. After graduation, I moved back to Chicago and received my Masters in Education from National-Louis University. Besides teaching, I have many hobbies, I love to play any sport and am busy most nights either playing Volleyball, Softball, Curling, or teaching Spinning classes. I also completed my eleventh triathlon this summer while also training for the Chicago Marathon in October.

Summer is my favorite season because I love to Waterski, Paddle Board! What did you do this summer?

**I am very excited to meet everyone and get to know each of you. I hope you enjoy the rest of your summer, and I'll see you soon!**

Think about something you love to do and be ready to share it on our first day of school!

Sincerely,

Ms. Collins

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