



Welcome to Fifth Grade!



August 2017

Dear Fifth Grader,

Welcome to **Highcrest Middle School!** My name is Mrs. Essary and I will be your homeroom teacher this year! I will also be teaching you reading, writing, and social studies. You will go to Ms. Sarich for math and science. We will be doing and learning **amazing** things in all these classes! You'll also do other fun things in world language, physical education, and related arts. There are many other ways to get involved in fifth grade by joining activities like band, orchestra, choir, or one of the fun clubs or sports that Highcrest offers.

You probably have a lot of questions about fifth grade and life at Highcrest Middle School, but don't worry...we will spend the first few weeks of school going over everything you need to know!

I can't wait to meet you and get to know you! In the mean time, here's a little bit about myself. I've been teaching for 13 years. After getting my master's degree from Northwestern, I taught junior high in Hawai'i, where I was the head of the language arts department...and a background actor on the TV show Lost! When I moved back to Chicago, I taught third grade in Glenview. I also spent some time writing and designing a nonfiction children's book, and I'm currently working on some other books. Now this will be my *seventh year* teaching *fifth grade* at Highcrest! (*If you have an older sibling who went to school here, they probably know me as Miss Anderson.*) I love teaching fifth grade and I'm so excited to be your teacher this year!

My husband and I live in Chicago with our six-month old baby girl, Eleanor, and our dog, Nalu. When I'm not teaching I love playing with my daughter, being outdoors, kayaking, hiking, surfing, and paddle boarding. I also love reading and writing stories. ***I can't wait to hear about all the things you love to do!***

I'm looking forward to meeting you on the first day of school on Tuesday, September 5th. This will be a half day (starting at 8:50) in which we will get to know each other, the school, the schedule, and the rest of your teachers. We will be in **classroom 141**. *Please bring ALL of your supplies with you on the first day.*

I can't wait to begin our **EXCITING** year together, full of learning, fun, and adventures! ***See you soon...***

Enthusiastically,

Mrs. Essary

essaryk@wilmette39.org