

Dear Sixth Grader,

Welcome to House 1, and the 2018-2019 school year! We are so excited for the amazing year to come. The teachers in House 1 are Mrs. Straub (Math), Ms. Goldberg (ELA), Ms. Eakley (Science), Ms. Facchini (ELA), and Mrs. Ethen (LBS). Team 2 is comprised of Mrs. Straub and Ms. Goldberg. You will have social studies with your homeroom teacher. We can't wait to meet you and learn all about you. In the meantime, here's a little about us.

A Note from Mrs. Straub

I am one of the math teachers for our team. I am returning to Highcrest for my fourteenth year, and sixteenth in education. I love math and helping students make new discoveries! This summer I spent lots of time at the lake, visiting family and friends, and taking weekend road trips with my husband and two children.

A Note from Ms. Goldberg

I'm so thrilled to be joining House One! This is my sixth year teaching, and my fourth year at Highcrest. I hold a BA in Elementary Education from University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and am currently working on a Masters in Reading at Concordia University. I love cooking, yoga, and reading every middle school novel I can get my hands on! This summer, I lead a young professionals trip to Israel and enjoyed many bike rides along the lake in Chicago. I also spent a lot of time planning my wedding, which will take place over Thanksgiving break! I'm looking forward to a great year filled with lots of reading and writing!

A Note from Ms. Eakley (Formerly Walker)

"What is the center of gravity?" "The Letter V of course!" I can hardly wait to share more fun science puns with you in class. Albert Einstein once said, "Education is not the learning of facts, but the training of the mind to think." We are going to have a great year thinking, laughing, learning, and growing together! One of my favorite things about 6th grade is getting to see all the new discoveries students make as they learn and grow in their independence! This was a fun and very busy summer for me! When I wasn't working on home remodeling, I enjoyed biking, live music, and vacationing on a lake in Wisconsin! I look forward to hearing about your summer adventures!

A Note from Mrs. Ethen

I am excited to be joining the 6th grade team as a new Learning Behavior Specialist! While this is my first year at Highcrest, I'm starting my tenth year of teaching. I will be teaching two Math classes, two Academic Strategies classes, and co-teaching an English Language Arts class. In my free time, I enjoy spending time with and going on adventures with my husband and three children. This summer, our road trips led us to Minnesota and Ohio to visit family, going boating, ziplining, and four-wheeling. I am looking forward to having an amazing 2018-2019 school year!

As you are getting ready for the new school year, be sure to check out the school supply list posted on the Highcrest Middle School homepage. On the first day, you should bring your supplies unless you ordered the school supply kit. Please tell your parents to mark their calendars for Sixth Grade Curriculum Night on Tuesday, September 25 at 6:00 pm. They won't want to miss it! We are looking forward to partnering with you as we provide wonderful learning experiences and opportunities this school year!

Sincerely,

Your Sixth Grade Teachers