

Dear Students and Families,

August, 2016

Welcome back to a new school year. I hope you are enjoying this beautiful summer. I have enjoyed the outdoors and spending time with family and friends. The highlight for me was sailing Desolation Sound, BC with family. What an amazing place.

To introduce myself, I have a Bachelor of Arts and my teaching credentials from The Evergreen State College, a Master of Education Degree in Educational Technology from City University and my Montessori Credentials from the Montessori Institute of the Pacific Northwest. I worked in the Graham Hill Montessori program teaching a 2nd/3rd and a 3rd/4th grade for a number of years. I also taught in a 3rd/4th APP classroom. In addition, I've taught science for the Pacific Science Center and technology at the Meridian School. I very excited to be joining the Daniel Bagley team and to work with you and your children.

I have a passion for the natural world and enjoy gardening, hiking, biking, sailing and camping. I especially love teaching earth science and have an extensive rock, mineral and fossil collection, which really excites children.

I am looking forward to a year of curiosity, exploration, friendship and learning. We will cover the standards and expectations for 3rd and 4th grade using the Montessori elementary curriculum and philosophy. I will be using Readers and Writers workshop for instructing reading and writing. Last summer I attended the Columbia Teachers College Readers Workshop in New York to refine my instruction.

Parents, please send me an email before school starts or in the first week to check in and make sure I have a correct email address that you would like me to use for updates and newsletters this year. The first day of school is Wednesday, September 7. This year school starts bright and early at 7:55 am. School is out at 2:05 pm. I will be at school the next week, Monday through Friday, as well as be there some this week. Please feel free to stop by and introduce yourself if you would like. I could use some help with getting student materials ready. If you would like to help, please let me know. You can also send me an email at spkingsbury@seattleschools.org if you have any questions.

Supplies

Our plan for the 2016-2017 school year is to buy classroom supplies in bulk— saving you both time and money. At the beginning of the school year we will collect \$35 from each student (\$30 for classroom supplies and \$5 for Ms. McNeer's art supplies.) Please make the check out to Daniel Bagley with the room number on it. The complete supply list will be on the website.

Parent Help

Parents make the school year work. Please consider volunteering for a job or two. If two parents volunteer for each job, everything will be covered, and we will all benefit!

1. **Room Parent**-- as needed to help get out phone messages to all the class members.
2. **Work in the classroom on a regular basis**-- (preferably weekly).
3. **Work on projects that are sent home**-- (as needed).
4. **Field trip chaperones**-- (Frequently during the year)

Please fill out the **Room 213 Parent Survey** that will be sent home on the first day of school, and send it back as soon as you can, so I can learn more about your child.

Communication

I will keep in close contact with you through newsletters (monthly), and with notes and emails. Please feel free to call me at 206-252-5110, or to contact me by email at spkingsbury@seattleschools.org if you have any concerns. I will get back to you as quickly as possible.

Have a great last couple weeks of summer. I look forward to seeing everyone in September.

Sincerely,

Susan Kingsbury