

August 2020

Dear first grade families,

Welcome to Team Boyer! I cannot wait to meet you all, even if I have to say hello through a screen. I know that this is not the start to the year that any one of us anticipated. Like you and your family, I am still adjusting to the idea (and practice) of remote learning. Firstly, I'd like to tell you that you are doing a GREAT job. Being a parent during a pandemic is hard. Really hard. I know that like me, you agonized over what to do this fall for your children, but whatever you picked for your family, it is the right choice. And frankly, I'm glad you chose to stay with us because without you, I wouldn't get to do what I truly love- teaching! I know that we are going to have an amazing year together regardless of proximity.

A little bit about myself, I'm a Tahoma alumni and WSU graduate (Go Cougs!), and Maple Valley resident. In my previous professional life, I was a graphic designer, then decided to follow my heart into the teaching profession. I received a Masters in Teaching at Northwest University. I was incredibly lucky to student teach at Rock Creek as part of my master's program. Following student teaching, I taught second grade in the Issaquah School District, and as soon as a first grade position opened up at Rock Creek, it was an easy decision to make my way back to Tahoma. I have the sweetest little family. My husband, Mitch Boyer, is a Health and Fitness teacher at Tahoma High School. We have an adorable daughter, Lola, who is three years old. On New Year's Eve of last year, our second baby, Banks, was born and completed our family. We also have one fur-baby, Oscar, who is a Border Collie/Black Labrador mix.

As you hopefully know already, everyone in our district is working incredibly hard and we are learning new information constantly about the specifics of remote learning. Thank you so much in advance for your patience, flexibility, and grace as we start this year in a different way than any of us have ever experienced. I thrive on organization and consistency, so keeping the remote learning experience as simple and streamlined as possible for you and your family is very important to me. My goal this year is to make your child an independent, hard-working, and respectful learner in my classroom and at home.

Rock Creek has a fabulous team of first grade teachers, and we work closely together. Next week, you will get an email introducing our entire first grade team, and hopefully more scheduling specifics. Meanwhile, I am here to support you in any way that I can. I will do my best to answer your questions and if I can't, I will find someone who can. Please enjoy the last week of summer with your sweet kiddos. I am overjoyed to be seeing all of your lovely faces very soon!

All the best,

Maureen Boyer

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