

September 6, 2016

Dear Parents,

Welcome to the 2016-2017 school year at Pirie School. I am delighted to have your child in my classroom this year and look forward to sharing the school year together. As a teacher, I will endeavor to create an educational partnership with you and your child that will foster courage, determination, and a passion for knowledge. In addition to this, my commitment as an educator will be to provide your child with a nurturing and challenging educational environment.

I would like to introduce myself, I am Ms. Wendy Sears. I have taught for 15 years in both the city and the suburbs. For the last 11 years I have been teaching at St. Xavier University as an adjunct faculty member, in the field of education. My education background is a bachelor degree in special education, a Master's degree in Curriculum and Instructions and a Doctorate in Educational Leadership.

Since the curriculum is diverse and challenging, homework will be an important reinforcement tool to help students achieve mastery with the standards. Homework will be assigned to your child every evening, Monday through Thursday. It will reinforce concepts already discussed in class and always be a natural extension of their class coursework. Throughout the school year, your son/daughter will also be responsible for various assignments that may require a commitment of time on the weekend to complete, however, these occasions will be limited and you will be given advanced notice of when they will be assigned and when they will be due to the classroom. All of my students will need to bring their supplies to my classroom. The supplies for the school year are noted on their welcome letter that they received from their homeroom teacher.

Since attendance and appropriate behavior at school are crucial to the learning process, it is imperative that your son/daughter attends school every day as a mature and responsible student. During the first week of the new quarter, I will be working together with my students to develop a set of classroom rules, rewards and consequences. If an absence or tardy is unavoidable, your son/daughter will have the opportunity to complete their missed assignments, but nothing can recreate the classroom environment filled with student~teacher interaction. I look forward to meeting with you at Open House and during all Report Card Pick-Up sessions to discuss your child's educational experiences and academic progress.

Through our partnership, I will ensure that our common goal is to have your child reach their full potential. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank each one of you in advance for both your support and partnership for the upcoming school year. I look forward to meeting you soon. If you would like to contact me please leave a message at (773) 535-3435 and I will get back to you or you may email me at wvriedel@cps.edu.

Sincerely,

Ms. Wendy Sears

Special Education Teacher