

Dear Families,

My name is Rachael Wigoda and I will be your child's second grade teacher. I am thrilled to welcome your family to our community of learners! I look forward to working with you and your child. This is my fifth year teaching 2<sup>nd</sup> grade. I taught for four years in Kent and am overjoyed to be joining the Tahoma Elementary team this year. I feel very fortunate to work with the wonderful staff, supportive families, and outstanding students at our school.



A little bit about me and my teaching philosophy:

I graduated from Kent State University in Ohio where I received my Bachelor's Degree in Early Childhood Education. I also received my International Baccalaureate Certification and Reading Endorsement from Kent State. In addition, I completed my Master's degree in literacy in 2017. For fun I enjoy outdoor activities such as hiking, biking, camping, and kayaking. However, my favorite thing to do is spend time with my 5 month old baby!

My number one goal is to provide a safe and happy environment for your child where they can be a successful learner, feel valued, and grow. I firmly believe every child is talented and capable of success. I hold high and fair expectations for every child in our classroom. I also encourage students to value and take ownership in their work.

Our curriculum will include many new experiences in reading, writing, math, science, and social studies. Lessons will always be catered to children's interest and needs. I use the phrase "*Hands on, Minds on, Hearts on*" to describe the type of learning children will do in our classroom. You will be AMAZED how much your child will learn in second grade. Some of this learning includes working with others, exploring new things, listening to and following directions, becoming more independent in learning, and developing good decision-making skills.

To support your child, I will ensure the parent-teacher relationship is established and continued throughout the year. I will communicate with you through various methods to keep you updated on your child's progress and success. Over the summer, I recommend students read at least 20 minutes daily to keep up on reading accuracy and comprehension skills learned in first grade. Together I believe we will make this school year a wonderful one filled with many new learning experiences, success stories, growth, and a lot of fun! I look forward to working with you and your child!

Have a wonderful summer!

Rachael Wigoda  
2<sup>nd</sup> Grade  
Tahoma Elementary