

Good afternoon!

Welcome to 2nd grade! Thank you so much for coming to the Welcome Back Night and for sharing your child with me this year! I am so excited about working with you to help your student grow and succeed.

I know and understand that parents are often curious about the background of the people working with their children. I grew up in Fayetteville, NC and studied Elementary Education and French at UNC-Chapel Hill. While at UNC I observed and student-taught in 2nd grade at Forest View! I started my teaching career in Durham at Fayetteville Street and joined the Forest View staff in 2007. This will be my fourteenth year teaching 2nd grade. In June I married my husband Nathan and traveled to Florida for another wedding. We also went to Asheville and Ocean Isle Beach. I spent the rest of my time unpacking, hiking, reading, and baking. I even learned how to make swiss meringue buttercream frosting and made my first layer cake! I am excited about starting a new school year and getting to know your children not only as learners, but as people.

A big idea that ties our curriculum together is community. In any community, there is a diverse group of members with unique talents and needs. Your child has special gifts to contribute to our classroom and will learn and benefit from the gifts of his/her teachers and peers. Please do not forget that you are also a part of our community, and are welcome to participate in our classroom. If you are interested in volunteering in the classroom or in the library (which needs parent volunteers!), chaperoning field trips, sharing with our class, or helping out in another way, please let me know! I certainly welcome your involvement and will be happy to get the necessary volunteer forms for you! You may contact me by sending a note with your child, leaving a voicemail (919.560.3932), or e-mailing me at elizabeth.mckeel@dpsnc.net.

Thank you so much for your cooperation and support! I am looking forward to building a warm and supportive community with you this year! At the end of each week, **be on the lookout for a blue Friday folder** in your child's backpack with more updates from school!

Love,