

# welcome

Dear Parents,

I am so excited to have your child in my third-grade class this year! My name is Mrs. Sarah Paryz. This will be my sixteenth year teaching, my seventh year in the Iroquois District, my second year teaching third grade, and my second year at Elma Primary. I taught second, third, and fourth grades at Wales Primary before coming to Elma last year.

Before teaching at Wales Primary, I was a long-term substitute in a great variety of educational settings. I have spent most of the last ten years as a second-grade teacher or special education teacher within inclusive educational settings.

I earned my bachelor's degree in Arts for Children from Brockport in 2009 and my master's degree in Creative Studies from Buffalo State in 2010. I credit those degrees for giving me an appreciation of the arts within the classroom and for instilling creative problem-solving skills within my students. I value being a STEAM and project-based teacher. Over the last couple years, my classes have enjoyed becoming involved in straw rocket challenges, wax museums, and creating puppet theater shows. I look forward to designing and having some fun with STEAM projects again this school year!

Often, I tell my students interesting stories about my silly dogs Maverick and Maggie and the camping adventures my husband Matt and I take them on. Maverick has so much energy that I have trained him to run alongside my bike, pull me on cross country skis, and sit with me in my kayak. Maggie loves hunting and carrying sticks around our backyard in Elma, and she is such a goofball. They both love to catch waves off our little boat that we have on Silver Lake. This summer we enjoyed hosting our families for the annual third of July "ring of fire" at the lake. We created such great family memories this summer!

I am very much looking forward to working with your children this school year. If you would like to touch base or have any questions, please send me an email at [sparyz@iroquoiscsd.org](mailto:sparyz@iroquoiscsd.org). I will be hosting a supply drop off on Tuesday, September 3 from 1:30-2:30 at school. Please bring your child's supplies and come check out the classroom!

Your partner in education,

  
Sarah Paryz

