Dear Families of Room 1014,

Welcome to our classroom! My name is Maura O'Keefe. I am excited to be your child's teacher for the 2026-2027 school year. This year we are welcoming Miss Melissa into our classroom. Miss Melissa has been working at Sands since 2003. Miss Melissa has worked in 3-6 and 6-9 as a classroom assistant. She and I are very excited to be working together next year!



A little about me...after graduating from Xavier University in 2003, I started teaching at Sands Montessori. I taught 6-9 year olds for several years, but decided to switch to the 3-6 environment in 2011. I have American Montessori credentials for preschool and kindergarten as well as for first, second, and third grade. In addition, I have an undergraduate degree in Early Childhood Education and a Master's degree in education.



My husband Sean and I have been married for 22 years. We have 2 daughters: Kaitlin (19) and Gabriella (17) and one son: Joey (14). Kaitlin just finished her freshman year of college and is excited to begin working as a CNA this summer. Gabriella plays competitive club volleyball. She enjoys traveling all around the east coast to play. Joey loves playing golf, working out, and any video game he can find.

Miss Melissa and her husband of almost 30 years (Randy), have 2 amazing kids Randon (28) and Eva (26). Both attended Sands Montessori and then went on to Walnut Hills. Randon graduated from UC. He is an aerospace engineer working for Boeing in Santa Maria, California. Eva graduated from OSU in business finance. She currently works for JP Morgan in Columbus. Outside of school, Miss Melissa loves spending time with her family and 2 dogs, skiing, camping, gardening, and perfecting her culinary skills! Miss Melissa is Dutch Indonesian and enjoys sharing her culture with the children.





In our classroom, we love to complete art projects and work together to learn new concepts. We always have a lot of fun! We have lots of great things planned for this school year.

The preschool and kindergarten classrooms (3-6 year olds) will be hosting a meet and greet as well as a materials drop off on Thursday, August 13th from 4:00-5:30 pm. If you are unable to come in at that time, you are welcome to

drop off materials outside our classroom door the following week. The building is typically open from 8:30–3:30 each day. Please make sure you label the bag with your child's name, so we know where to put the materials. You are also welcome to send in supplies with your child the first few days of school.

I hope you all have a wonderful summer! Miss Melissa and I are looking forward to seeing you and welcoming you to our community in August!

Miss Maura