

August 19, 2026

Dear Parents,

Welcome Back to another new school year. Time flies! It feels like we ended the last school year just a week ago.

We welcome back our new Sixth Graders from H.C. 2010 and 2012. We look forward to their leadership as they have the most 9-12 knowledge and experience. We are all teachers in our Communities, and they are the best.

We welcome back our middle children who like being considered very reliable because they have to be the most independent. (I was told by fifth graders awhile back that teachers have to especially work with 6th graders to prepare them for 7th grade and 4th graders because they are new to 9-12.)

We give a warm welcome to our new fourth graders who will come into the classroom each day wondering what will happen next. 9-12 is so different from 6-9. They slowly but surely learn that 4th grade is okay, not so hard and not so scary.

In English Language Arts we will read and we will write and we will share. Trade books and shorter articles in SCOPE and STORYWORKS will include literary text and informational text so we can broaden our experience and knowledge. Writing will include research as well as writing persuasive, narrative, and descriptive essays. Letter writing and reading and writing poetry will be part of many days. Handwriting and Spelling will help to make written communication clearer.

We will begin the year by sharing what we already know about the Timeline of Life and the Timeline of Humans and then reseach and add to those facts we already know. We will again add to the Timeline on the back whiteboard to better understand the time relationship between events that we read about and study.

Social Studies this year will focus on 5th grade curriculum which includes the Western Hemisphere - focusing on its civilizations, history, geography, government and economics .

Happy New School Year! Again **Welcome Back** to Sands Montessori and HC 2010.

Jane Markowski