

May 2026

Dear families,

Welcome to fifth grade. We are so excited to meet you all, but in the meantime, we'd like to tell you a little about us.

Your child's teachers will be:

5th-grade Math- Mr. Helmick

5th-grade ELA- Mrs. Bakos

5th-grade Science and Social Studies- Mrs. Wyatt

6th grade Math walk up- Mrs. Lare

SAGE ELA - Mrs. Kujan

### **Mr. Helmick**

I am looking forward to being your child's Math teacher this year at Inspiration Mountain! I am entering my 15th year of teaching, and most of my career has been spent teaching 5th-grade math. I know that many students do not enjoy math, but my job is to build confidence in each student, so they know they can achieve anything they put their mind to. I am also the co-sponsor of the Drama Club. This is the year that your student can audition for and be in the musical. In my free time, I enjoy spending time with my family and friends or attending the theatre. I am honored to have been named one of the 2024-2025 DVUSD Teacher of the Year.

### **Mrs. Bakos**

Welcome to a new and exciting school year! I'm thrilled to have the opportunity to work with your child this year. It's a privilege to partner with you as we help your child grow as a reader, writer, and lifelong learner.

After spending several years raising my own family, I'm grateful to be back in the classroom doing what I love. I also had the opportunity to coach college cheerleading at Arizona State University for a few seasons, an

experience that strengthened my belief in the value of hard work, teamwork, and encouraging one another to succeed.

Outside of school, I love spending time with my little family and enjoying everything the Arizona outdoors always has to offer. I grew up in Ohio, so being outside is wonderful, especially in the winter!

I'm excited to begin this journey with you and your child. Here's to a wonderful 2026–2027 school year, making great team memories!

### **Mrs. Wyatt**

I'm thrilled to be your child's Science and Social Studies teacher this year! It's truly an honor to be part of the amazing team at Inspiration Mountain. This marks my 22nd year in education, and I'm as excited as ever to help make this school year fun, meaningful, and successful for every student. In our classroom, students will be encouraged to explore new ideas with curiosity and a positive mindset. I have high expectations and great confidence in what they can achieve. I can't wait to share my love of science and social studies with your child and watch them grow. A little about me—I'm married with two grown children. Outside the classroom, I enjoy hiking, kayaking, photography, and caring for my ever-growing collection of succulents. I'm also a big fan of the Denver Broncos and the Oregon Ducks—something your kids will definitely learn during football season! Here's to a fantastic year ahead!

### **Mrs. Lare 6th ~ Math**

I'm thrilled to be your child's 6th-grade math teacher this school year! This marks my 16th year teaching in the DVUSD district, and I'm excited to continue supporting students in their mathematical growth. My goal is to foster a positive mindset while building a "Thinking Classroom," where students feel encouraged to explore ideas, take risks, and develop strong problem-solving skills.

### **Mrs. Kujan**

Hello 5th-grade families! As the Gifted Specialist here at Inspiration Mountain, I'm thrilled to announce an exciting shift for our 5th-grade students this year! We are replacing SPARK Enrichment with SAGE ELA (English Language Arts). SAGE ELA is a specialized language arts program specifically designed for gifted students. Eligibility requires a score at or above the 97th percentile in the verbal areas of a state-approved gifted assessment. To learn more about the curriculum and goals of the program, please visit the [DVUSD Gifted Services website](#).

I look forward to an amazing year of growth, creativity, and learning with your student!