**W E L C O M E T O 3rd G R A D E I N R O O M 2 !**

Dear Family / Querida Familia: 08/15/12

Life in Room 2 this school year will be amazing! Based on our assessment days, we have a fun and thoughtful group of learners, and we’re clearly going to grow tremendously this year. I am writing to introduce myself as your child’s teacher, and to provide information about my background. ***(Se habla español. Por cierto, me encanta hablarlo. Si usted prefiere que nos comunicamos en el español, dime por favor. ¡Gracias!)***

This is my sixth year teaching at Charles Hay World School, following a first career in college admission. In addition to teaching, I am also a student and an intern! I am currently enrolled in an Educational Leadership master’s program at DU, so there are many hats that I wear at different times; the most important of these hats is the one that is labeled “your child’s teacher”.

During my undergraduate years at Kalamazoo College, I studied abroad in Costa Rica for six months and traveled around Latin America. In 2008, I was fortunate to spend a month exploring Japan on a study tour sponsored by the U.S. Department of Education and the Fulbright-Hays Foundation. I enjoy incorporating such life experiences into our classroom setting.

Outside of Charles Hay World School, I serve as co-chair of the District Accountability Advisory Council, and am involved in the Center for Teaching Quality’s New Millennium Initiative, a group of forward-thinking teachers dedicated to sharing best teaching practices and affecting education policy change.

Away from the classroom, I was just married in June! My wife Erin (who teaches foreign languages at the high school level) and I enjoy running and walking our dogs together (Wrigley, a Beagle; and Bree, a Brittany Spaniel), traveling, and spending time with family. I also enjoy working on home renovations, and could be considered obsessed with baseball and cars in any form.

I look forward to building a strong home-to-school partnership as we all work together to push our students as far as they can go with their learning. Stay tuned for information about our classroom Wiki page, where you can find updates, learning tips, documents, a homework calendar, and more.

The third grade was a very formative year for me, and I am excited to share a similar experience with your learner. Please feel free to contact me whenever I can provide assistance. Thank you for sending your child to Charles Hay World School, a wonderful community of learners!

Sincerely,



Michael D. Carlson

Third Grade Teacher

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