Greetings!

Welcome to the 2019-2020 school year! This will be my sixth-year teaching 3rd grade at NES. I am thrilled to get back into my classroom and meet each and every one of you!

I will go over in detail our classroom goals, routines, and expectations for this upcoming school year at Backto-School/Teacher Presentation night. However, I would like to take this time to share some background information. I am a graduate of West Chester University. I

have a Bachelor of Science in Education. While studying Early Grades Education at West Chester University, I also took the challenge of earning a dual minor in Reading and Communications. I am currently enrolled in the Teaching and Curriculum in Language Arts master's program at Penn State Harrisburg. I anticipate to graduate the master's program this December. As your child's teacher, it is my goal to never cease my own pedagogical growth in efforts to put forth effective teaching practices.

Above anything else, I sincerely enjoy witnessing & being a part of the learning process. I believe in **challenging**, **inspiring**, and **believing** in my students to meet their best potential. After my first year of teaching I was left with a small note on my desk that said,

"You make the hard problems easy. You also challenge me a lot! How do you do both at the same time?!"

Every year I find myself reflecting on this small sticky note with a huge smile on my face. As we enter our #YEAR OF CHEER I am excited for the many adventures in store for us.

Liknow that most children love back-to-school shopping! Students are welcome to bring their own supplies with the exception of personal sharpeners. However, please know that we mostly have a flexible seating layout. Personal pencil boxes will be kept either in bookbags or mailboxes in the classroom. Our classroom will have supplies available to students such as: purple NES folder, student planner, folders/notebooks, writing binder, reading binder, pencils, community markers, community colored pencils, and community scissors. If you would like to donate school or flexible seating supplies, kindly let me know and we can chat about what our classroom is in most need of!

I believe that we should be comfortable when we work as we build our executive function skills! Please know that our classroom has a *flexible seating* arrangement. **Meaning**, **students** do not have/work at traditional



desks. Instead, there is a variety of tables & chairs for students to work at (standing tables, floor tables, regular height tables). Studies support having various learning space opportunities can better meet diverse needs. Students will keep any folders, binders, books, etc. in a "home base" cart. Each learner is assigned a "home base" where he/she will meet for family meetings, directions, and attendance.

Whether it is from our classroom library **Or** from home, students are also encouraged to have a personal book kept in their book bag by the second week of school.

On a more personal note... your child should probably be forewarned of a few little things about myself:

- I am a new Mom to a little boy, Colton Patrick
- I value the importance of spending time with family
- I am a <u>HUGE</u> Disney fan (like, absolutely huge)
- I love coffee & bagels
- Purple and blue are my favorite colors

- My cat's name is Figaro
- I am a journal writer
- I love to play volleyball
- I enjoy watching the Phillies
- I am a PSU fan
- Fall is my favorite season
- I read every day
- I like to label almost everything

Last but not least, you and your child should know this school year will look like all of these things:

- Making mistakes
- Math games
- Reading chapter books
- Science messes
- "Road" trips
- Madlibs
- Football Fridays
- Shout Outs

- Seesaw
- Center games
- Whole Brain
- Fun Fridays
- Cooperative Learning
- Flexible Seating
- Team work
- Supporting one another

Please contact me at msnyder@northernyork.org if you have any questions. Enjoy the rest of your summer! I look forward to meeting you and your child at Open House.

