

Dear Fifth Grade Families,

I hope that your summers have been restful and fun! I am so excited to begin the new school year, and continue the meaningful work of teaching your children.

For those of you who don't know me, this will be my tenth year at Gate City. I started as an assistant teacher in 2016, and then taught Kindergarten and First Grade for several years before transitioning to my current role. It has been a delightful and rewarding decade at a school I have come to think of as a second home. I love working with kids and playing a role in their growth. When I am not teaching, I enjoy creative writing, reading, learning about history, watching documentaries, and playing and watching basketball.

In Fifth Grade, your kids will read exceptional and memorable literature; learn about significant historical trends, events, and figures; hone their writing skills; progress in their mastery of the English language; and use their creativity as a vehicle to access new material and broaden their perspectives. Additionally, they will be members of a caring, inclusive, and supportive community of students and staff who take pride in looking out for one another.

This year, I will be utilizing Google Classroom to help students organize their assignments and monitor deadlines. This can also be a helpful tool for you as parents to stay up to date on your child's completion of assignments. In addition to Google Classroom, I aim to write a weekly newsletter through email to keep families informed on what's going on in the classroom, and to ensure that lines of communication stay open.

As you close out your summers, please don't hesitate to reach out to me with any questions or concerns about the upcoming year or supplies list. My email is mchughm@gccs-nh.org.

I appreciate your time, communication, and willingness to allow me the privilege of teaching your children.

Sincerely,

Mark McHugh