

Dear Parents,

It is my pleasure to welcome you and your child to their new humanities classroom! I am very eager to meet your children and watch them grow over the next year. I look forward to working with you and your student to ensure that they are successful and enjoy their first year of middle school. We will be learning many new and exciting things that will prepare your student for the rest of their educational career.

I am from a smaller town in central Maine and attended the same school district for my K-12 education. I remember my middle school years could be very challenging at times because of the new expectations and lots of changes. I have always found comfort in reading, writing, and learning and I hope to cultivate the same passion I have in your child. I do know that these new feelings and academic challenges can make someone feel overwhelmed, but that's why I am here! Don't hesitate to reach out with any questions, or concerns, or just to communicate with me. I will express this to my new students on their first day and I hope that over time they will begin to feel safe and comfortable in my classroom.

It is my belief that every student can succeed beyond any expectations. Each and every student is unique and has their own set of individual needs. As their teacher, it is my job to provide them with the tools and information they will need to be responsible informed citizens. I aim to enter my classroom with a smile, a positive attitude, and high expectations for all students. I aim to always be a safe space for students. I will encourage them to take charge of their own learning and explore new ideas, thoughts, and emotions. As human beings, we are all lifelong learners and it is my job to learn just as much from my students as they do from me. In my classroom, we will be working on developing our writing and creating projects that may take your students out of their comfort zones, yet they will be learning new skills and strengthening the ones they already have. I will do my best to create a classroom family that supports one another. Since we will be spending a lot of time together it is important to me that we all remain kind and compassionate, and treat each other with respect.

I look forward to the next year,

Ms. Connelly