

## PACIFIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, 3RD & 4TH grades, 2018-2019

Dear 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Parents,

Hello! I'm Ms. Hettenhausen...or Ms. Hett for short. This coming school year, 2018-2019, will be my third year teaching at Pacific Elementary School. I look forward to seeing many familiar faces along with a few new ones.

We have a rich curriculum that is rooted in our state standards and supported with several enrichment activities including Life Lab, reading buddies, music lessons, technology, and several local field trips. I use a combination of teaching strategies and projects to create an engaging learning environment. Instructional aides and interns are found frequently in our room to assist students in learning. Family and community members are often invited to come and share their expertise in the classroom--this might be you!

One way to make learning relevant and engaging for students is by incorporating their strengths, interests, and passions. You can help me get a jump-start on getting to know your child by telling me some of the things that makes your child special. Feel free to include anything you would like me to know. This information can be shared via email or written note at your earliest convenience or you can tell me in person.

Bridging home and school activities is a great way to make a measurable impact on student learning. Monthly newsletters and emails aim at keeping your family in the loop about what our class is working on so you can enrich school learning at home. I would also love to hear about what you are doing at home so that I can extend it to school.

Want to know a little about me? I grew up in Santa Cruz but lived most my adult life out of state. I returned to the area two summers ago--this time with two kids, dog, and husband in tow. During the twenty years in between, I have lived in Massachusetts, Wyoming, Montana, and Texas as a student, teacher, and park ranger. I love being outside, gardening, playing games, and cooking. It feels great to get back to California where there is ample opportunity for all of these activities.

**On Tuesday, August 21st, from 9-10am**, you are welcome to come visit the classroom. This is also a chance to be sure all your Registration paperwork is complete and turned in at the office; forms are on our school website and the emailed Back-to-School Registration Paperwork memo. Also, **a reminder to pay ahead for lunches, BEFORE SCHOOL STARTS**; you may use your online banking to set up auto-pay for lunches, September 1 – April 1 (as well as for preschool tuition, after care, and Rec bills.) \$72 monthly for 20 student lunches @ \$3.60 each, and \$5.65 for all other lunches (parents, guests, siblings). Please contact the school office if you have any questions.

I am honored to be teaching at Pacific Elementary School and will take great care of your 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> grader. I look forward to seeing you soon.

Monica Hettenhausen, [mhettenhausen@pacificesd.org](mailto:mhettenhausen@pacificesd.org)

*School supplies that are always appreciated are **foam-pump hand soap** (it's easy for kids to suds up while waiting to use the faucet), **facial tissues**, **pencils** (Ticonderoga are the preferred brand), **extra non-perishable snacks**, **dry erase markers** (students use them too!), **small prizes for the prize box**, **tape for tape dispenser**, **wide-ruled lined paper**.*

### **A reminder about our new school hours for 2018-2019:**

**Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri:** First – Third Grades: 8:40 a.m. - 2:45 p.m., Fourth – Sixth Grades: 8:40 a.m. - 3:10 p.m.

**All Wednesdays and Last Day of School:** First – Sixth grades: 8:40 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.