

Dear Parents/Guardians,

August 28, 2017

Welcome to what will be a wonderful 8<sup>th</sup> grade year! This year is significant; it is a stepping stone academically, socially, and emotionally as students approach high school. My language arts class will be challenging but, more importantly, will also be a place where your child will be valued and encouraged. There will be a LOT of reading and writing, and my expectations are high. However, I know that with collaboration and cooperation from all involved, your child will set and reach remarkable goals. Mutual respect and hard work will be our guiding principles.

Communication is extremely important to me. I will attempt to maintain an open relationship with each one of my students. However, I also want to establish honest and regular interactions with you. I will not hesitate to contact you when necessary. Please feel free to do the same. You may email me any time at [krystil.wade@cms.k12.nc.us](mailto:krystil.wade@cms.k12.nc.us) or call the school office to speak with me. You may also visit [mrsirvin04.weebly.com](http://mrsirvin04.weebly.com) to stay updated on what we are doing in class. Reading the attached syllabus (also posted on the News page of my website) will be helpful as well. I want us all to be in agreement about the expectations, so if you have any questions or comments, do not hesitate to let me know.

One of my first priorities as a teacher is to get to know my students as thoroughly as possible. Most of this will come through my interactions with them, but there is valuable information about them that only you can share. So, in the interest of providing each student with the best educational experience possible, I am asking for your help. If you could, please take a moment to write me a letter telling me whatever you think I should know about your son/daughter. Strengths? Weaknesses? Interests? Concerns? Random facts? There are no guidelines; just talk to me about your child. (Most parents love to do this naturally! ☺) I welcome any and everything you choose to share. I know that at the beginning of the school year, you have *many* papers to read and forms to complete. This letter, though, will give me much insight into how to best teach, and I promise to read every word! You may email this to me or send it to school with your student. There is no deadline; just get it to me when you can. I like to reference them throughout the year and cannot tell you how much I appreciate this information. Thank you so much in advance!

I am delighted to be your child's 8<sup>th</sup> grade language arts teacher. This profession is a true love and joy for me. These students are one of my main passions. I believe in each one of them and know that they *can* and *will* grow in my classroom. Thank you for trusting me with them. It will be a great year!



Sincerely,  
Mrs. Irvin