## SNOSPRINGS 攀 SCHOOL

25237 SE Issaquah-Fall City Rd. Issaquah, WA 98029 425 392-1196

Dear Parents,

Welcome! My name is Amy Sparks, and I am thrilled to be teaching at SnoSprings. It is an honor to be teaching at such a caring, child-focused school. I look forward to getting to know you and your child!

From the time I was young, I wanted to be a teacher. I earned my Ed. M. (Master in Education) from Harvard University and a Bachelor of Science from West Virginia University. Additionally, I hold graduate credits in literacy education. Teaching and learning are my passion!

I started teaching in 1995 in Alabama. After teaching mixed grades for two and a half years in Alabama and West Virginia, I began teaching fourth grade in West Virginia while simultaneously completing graduate courses in literacy education.

In 1998, I returned to school full-time at Harvard University's Graduate School of Education. My academic focus was on relationships, risk and resilience in children. I am passionate about the collaboration between the student and the teacher, the school and the home.

After earning my master's, I returned to the classroom where I taught fourth grade for the next five years in Fairfax, VA (3) and Durham, NC (2). I was fortunate to work with wonderful staff and diverse groups of learners in both states.

In 2004 my husband and I started our family with the birth of our first son. Not long after, our second son was born in 2007. During my children's early developmental years, I worked part-time as a business manager and adult educator at a women's gym in Durham.

In 2009, our family moved to Washington and we immediately fell in love with the Pacific Northwest! I spent the next few years volunteering at my sons' preschools and our church, leading a MOPS group and volunteering at Endeavour Elementary. During this time, I realized how much I missed working with students, so in 2013, I began substitute teaching for the Issaquah School District. For six years, I substituted in K-5 classrooms, Learning Resource classrooms, Merlin, SAGE, Library, Reading and PE. I love working with students in all areas!

As a teacher at SnoSprings School, I feel privileged to be able to guide and nurture students on their academic journey. Additionally, my goal is to meet students where they are, facilitate their growth, and help them develop a life-long love of learning. Seeing children grow and make connections to the world around them is a joy!

Please contact me with any questions you may have, or simply reach out so that I can get to know you and your child better.

Sincerely, Amy Sparks