

Dear student,

August 3, 2016

Welcome to sixth grade! I hope that you had an enjoyable and fun-filled summer. I want you to know that I am extremely excited for the upcoming school year, and I am thrilled to work with you! I know that you are probably feeling a little nervous about starting middle school. I want you to know that it is perfectly normal to feel that way. I assure you that you will make new friends, learn your way around the building, and even learn how to open your locker within a matter of weeks. I am writing this letter to help ease your anxieties and so that you can get to know me a little better.

I was born in Honolulu, Hawaii, and went to high school in Peachtree City, Georgia. I received my bachelor's degree in Education from Georgia State University, and I have a master's degree in Instructional Education from Central Michigan University. I love to read, travel, and hang out with friends and family. This summer I traveled to Illinois, Wisconsin, Dominican Republic, and California. I also enjoyed reading many novels.

To help me get to know you, please write me a letter back with information concerning you as an individual and as an English student. What is your full name? Do you have any nicknames you go by? What are you interested in? What do you like to do in your spare time? What are your favorite movies, music bands/singers, and TV shows? What do you dislike?

Tell me about your family. When and where were you born? Do you have a favorite sport or sports team? What is your favorite food? What is something you have accomplished and are especially proud of?

How successful have you been in English Language Arts up to this point? Do you like to read? How do you feel about your writing skills, speaking ability, and your spelling skills? Do you enjoy using your imagination to write creatively? What is your best subject in school?

What especially would you like to accomplish this year, both in this class and in sixth grade? How can I, as your ELA teacher, help you achieve your goals? What are your aspirations for life?

I am sure that this will be the best year in your educational experience. With effort and a positive attitude, ELA can be an engaging, exciting, and even fun class. I expect you to always try your best and I will do my best to make your year a positive and challenging one. I can't wait to get to know you better, and I look forward to hearing back from you!

Sincerely,

*Ms. Kearns*