

Welcome Ridgeview Rockstars!

Our Ridgeview Team is excited to start a new school year and can't wait to meet you and your family at our open house as summer comes to a close. Enjoy finding and reading about our Kindergarten/DK team below:



Hi!! I am Mrs. Straayer!! I teach DK and this is my 4th year at Ridgeview!!! I love teaching at Ridgeview because it is full of Sparta Rockstars that are safe, kind, respectful, and responsible!!! I live with my husband, Jack--and 4 kids-- Elijah--18, Josiah--18, Libby --16, and Esther --13!! I also have 3 goats, 2 dogs, and 6 chickens!!! ♥



Hello! My name is Mrs. May and I have been teaching in Sparta since 2005. I graduated from GVSU in 2004 and earned my masters degree in elementary reading in 2015. My husband, Matthew, and I are the proud parents of daughter, Brayley, and son, Lochlan. I enjoy teaching at Ridgeview because of the amazing students and families that I serve. I love spending time with my family and **READING!**



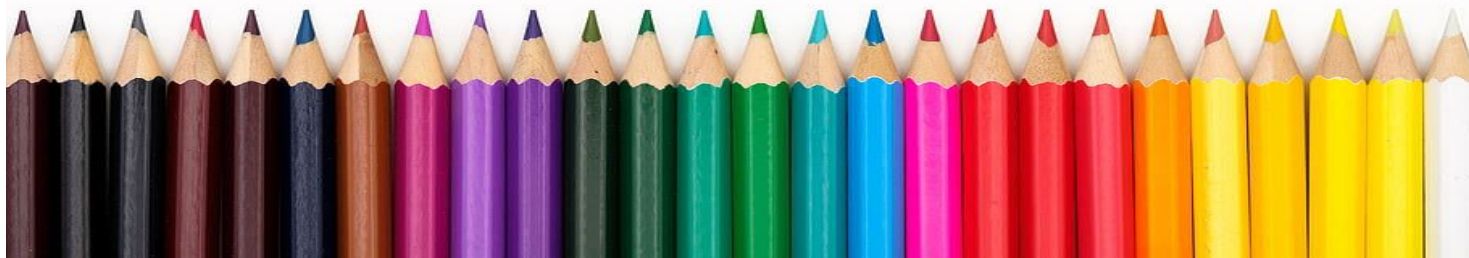
Hello, my name is Mr. Steinbacher and this will be my 8th year at Ridgeview. My wife, Heather and I live in Cedar Springs with our three boys, Evan, Brayden, and Blake. They also attend Sparta schools. They will be in 7th, 10th, and 12th grade. We spend a lot of our summer travelling to baseball tournaments and watching them play. Ridgeview is a great place to teach and learn! I Love working with the teachers and administrators here, and the students are awesome! Our PBIS store is great! Students get to earn tickets and spend them on real items. I love to go camping, hunting, and fishing, especially with my family. I am looking forward to an awesome school year!



Hello DK families! My name is Jackie Willemin and I have been teaching on the kindergarten team in Sparta for a while now. Before I was in Sparta I taught kindergarten in Kentwood where I met my husband, who is also an elementary school teacher! We have three young boys who we love to spend time reading, adventuring, and being outdoors with! I believe you as the parent are your child's first and best teacher and it's important to me to know and respect your family values. I value transparency in the classroom and will keep you updated on our lessons, read alouds, and activities! I feel blessed that you are sharing your greatest treasure with me and will do my best to provide the beginning education experience you and your child have dreamed of! :)



Hi! My name is Carolynn Sidlauskas and I am so excited to be teaching kindergarten here at Ridgeview! I graduated from CMU in 2004 and taught for 7 years before taking a break to stay home with my kids. Along the way I also earned a master's degree in early childhood. My husband Mike and I have been married for 17 years. We have four children Lucas (15), Amelia (11), James (9), and Titus (7) who all attend Sparta schools. Our family spent 6 years serving as missionaries in the country of South Africa, where we started an Early Childhood Center for the children in our community, before moving to Sparta in 2021. When I'm not teaching I enjoy baking, reading a good book, and spending time outdoors.



Hi friends and families! My name is Mrs. Hillary Bufton and this year is my 2nd year at Ridgeview. Ridgeview is such a special community where the teachers, administration and families take care of one another. A little bit about me! I recently just got married and moved to Rockford with my

husband and our puppy, Theo. I am a huge fan of the outdoors, sports, and creating a fun, hands-on learning environment within our classroom. Here's to a great school year! :)



Hello! My name is Stevee Tompsett (Miss Tompsett) and this will be my fourth year teaching at Ridgeview Elementary, but my fifth year teaching total. I have two sweet pug puppies named Zoey and Roxy! I love how friendly everyone is at Ridgeview and

the feeling that our school is a home away from home. A fun fact about me is that I have a twin brother!



Hello! My name is Beth Avink. This will be my 8th year teaching overall, but my 4th year at Ridgeview. My family consists of myself and my two daughters Brielle(7) and Kenley(5). What I like most about teaching at Ridgeview is the fun and creative

learning atmospheres that each teacher creates every day, and the positive energy the kindergarteners come to school with every day. These two things make learning and teaching a ton of fun! Some fun facts about me are that I love sports and I love to watch sports. My favorites to watch are soccer, basketball, football, and hockey. I'm a very competitive person but when I'm not doing this I love to read and learn how to do something new.



Hello Kindergarten families! My name is Rachelle Burns. This is my first year teaching kindergarten at Ridgeview, but my eighth year teaching kindergarten overall. I am very excited to be

teaching in the Sparta district! This is also where my children attend school. My oldest daughter Colbee is in 7th grade, my daughter Sawyer is a fifth grader, and my youngest, Wyatt, is a first grader this year.



My name is Jackie Haney and I am beginning my first year here at Ridgeview! I have been teaching for the past 21 years. All but three of those years have been in Kindergarten! My education background includes earning both my

bachelor's and master's degrees from WMU (go Broncos!!) I am really excited to be a part of the Ridgeview family. I am really excited to grow and learn with all of you!



Hello! My name is Ms. Coty. I live in Grand Rapids, where I have lived my whole life. This is my first year teaching Kindergarten at Ridgeview, but my fifth year teaching overall. I enjoy reading, hiking, kayaking, traveling, and being outdoors! I love doing fun and creative activities in our

classroom. I enjoy sports and I also coach field hockey in Forest Hills in the fall.



Suggested DK Supply List 2022-2023 School Year

(DK) Developmental Kindergarten

- ☐ Labeled water bottle
- ☐ Sturdy folder with Child's name on it
- ☐ 2-4 boxes of tissue
- ☐ 2 pkgs of baby wipes
- ☐ 2 pkgs of Crayola Washable markers
- ☐ 4 pkgs of Crayola crayons
- ☐ 6 Elmer's large size (0.77 oz) glue sticks
- ☐ 1 pair of kid scissors

Optional Items: playdough, box of band-aids, plastic cups, gallon size bags, sandwich bags, new or used coloring books, graham crackers and pretzel bag.

Suggested Kindergarten Supply List 2022-2023 School Year

Kindergarten

- ☐ 6 Elmer's washable glue sticks large size only (.77 oz) (The small sticks dry out quickly and break off easily)
- ☐ 3 boxes of Crayola crayons 24-pack
- ☐ 1 box #2 HB Dixon Ticonderoga soft lead pencils
- ☐ 2 pack of washable Crayola markers
- ☐ 1 box of Crayola colored pencils
- ☐ Expo dry erase markers - 8-pack or 2 4-pack
- ☐ 2 boxes of tissues
- ☐ Pencil box
- ☐ 1 paper towel - Girls Only
- ☐ 1 Package of Napkins - Boys Only
- ☐ 1 container of Clorox disinfectant wipes
- ☐ 1 pkg ziplock baggies (gallon size)
- ☐ 1 pkg ziplock baggies (sandwich size)