



Welcome to **FIRST GRADE**



2024-2025 School Year

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome to 1st grade! My name is Kathleen Bortz, and I'm very excited that I will be your child's teacher this year! I have a Master's Degree in Educational Leadership from Delaware Valley University and a Bachelor's Degree from Temple University in Elementary/Early Childhood Education. I have been a member of the Butler family for over 10 years, joining the first-grade team back in the fall of 2014. I am incredibly grateful to be a part this amazing community! This is such a special time for you and your child; I cannot wait to begin working, learning, and growing alongside each other this year.

I am incredibly passionate about my job and take the responsibility of educating young children very seriously. I do my best to keep our days full of exciting, developmentally appropriate activities which support a positive and active learning environment, focused on the whole child. Instructionally, my emphasis is not only on academics, but also on developing social skills and responsibility. In the classroom, you can expect me to be positive, kind, and honest with your child. In terms of management, I use a combination of firmness and consistency, as well as open communication with you, the parent.

You are your child's first, and most important, teachers. Your involvement and support in the school community is the key to our having a successful, positive school year. I welcome and appreciate communication with families. Please let me know about any concerns or issues you feel I need to be made aware of as they arise, and I will promise to do the same. Email is the easiest way to get a hold of me during the day, but we can always schedule a phone call or conference. Also, feel free to send in notes with your child, and please check your child's folder daily for any communication from me.

More of your questions will be answered at Back to School Night in September. We will have time to discuss curriculum, procedures, policies, opportunities for volunteering in the classroom, and etc. Please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns! My email is kbortz@cbssd.org. ☺ .

Looking forward to a fantastic year!

Sincerely,

Miss Kathleen Bortz, M.S. Ed.

**Teachers who love teaching, teach children to love learning.* - Robert John Meehan*