

Hello!

I LOVE teaching sixth grade. I am looking forward to the opportunity to teach your child this year. It is a year of substantial growth both academically and socially.

My philosophy of education is shaped by my own love of learning. My standards and expectations are intended to cultivate an environment that meets the short and long term goals we all have for our children. Students must learn the curriculum and “life skills” such as responsibility, organization, and time management that will help ensure success well into the future.

On Taylor’s Team, rules are few. Every child is different, and all actions and reactions are personal in nature. Effective discipline involves a few overriding tenets rather than a long list of specific rules. Situations are handled as they arise, with focus on enabling the student to grow and learn from his or her actions. The points below are my guidelines for student behavior.

- Feel free to do anything that doesn’t cause a problem for anyone else.
- If you cause a problem, I will ask you to solve it.
- If you can’t solve the problem or chose not to, I will do something.
- What I do will depend on the special person and the situation.
- If you feel something is unfair, please let me know respectfully, and we’ll talk.

In ensuring that the above guidelines are adhered to, I will operate with the following principles as my guide:

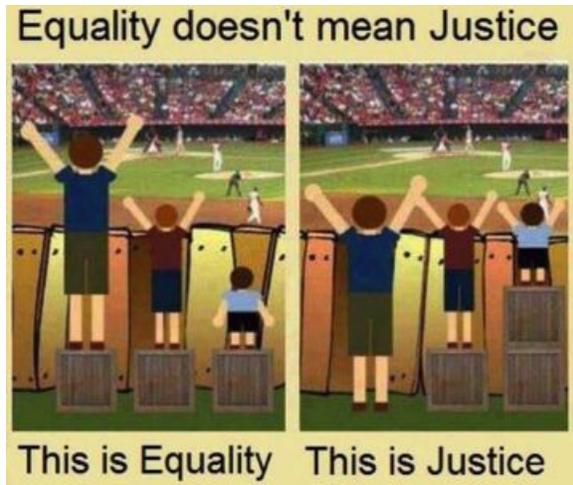
- I will demonstrate professional behavior and a positive attitude.
- I will show respect for each student while creating a climate for learning.
- Each student will receive continuous, timely, and meaningful feedback.
- I will communicate with parents about student behavior and progress.
- I will react without anger or haste to problem situations.
- I will provide consequences that are not punitive but that allow the student to experience the results of a poor choice, enabling him or her to make better choices in the future.
- I will proceed in all situations with the best interest of the child foremost in my mind—academic, social, safety, and emotional well-being are primary considerations.
- I will guide students toward personal responsibility and the decision making skills they will need to function in the real world.
- I will arrange consequences for problem situations in ways that the student will not be embarrassed in front of others.
- Equal is not always fair. Consequences will be designed to fit the situations of the individual students.

To ensure a safe environment where learning is of utmost importance, I will review my expectations and classroom rules with each student.

I am a graduate of California State University, Stanislaus where I earned my bachelor's degree in psychology; I also have a master's degree in education. When I am not in the classroom, I enjoy traveling, and being outdoors. I am a certified running coach and enjoy running marathons. When stuck indoors I read, write, and play the piano.

You are your child's most important teacher. I am looking forward to our partnership as we both strive toward helping your child meet his or her sixth grade goals.

To contact me please call Ripon Elementary or e-mail me at staylor@sjcoe.net. I can respond more quickly to emails than voicemails. You are always welcome in our classroom. We love visitors!



Thank you,

Ms. Susan Taylor