

Hello Santiam Christian Eagles!

It is an incredible honor to welcome you back for the 2022-23 school year! As we get ready to kick off another new school year I am always reminded how precious each year is in your child's development. I can truly say this year will be a year like no other as they will never pass through this grade and experience again. That thought always renews my passion for supporting parents in this age/stage, making incredible memories for kids and caring for their hearts. I want to introduce myself and our new staff, share some opportunities to connect with me, and give you some important dates to put on your calendar for the start of the school year.

For families new to Santiam Christian or that I did not get a chance to truly connect with last year as a first year principal at SC, this is my 27<sup>th</sup> year in education. I have served in two other districts and in many positions as a classroom teacher, reading specialist, Title I building coordinator, teacher coach and most recently for the past seven years as an elementary principal.

I was born and raised in Philomath where my father was a high school science teacher. Upon his retirement from public schools, he came to Santiam Christian where he spent the next 18 years teaching high school math. My husband, Seth Sanders, and I have two boys Colton (9th grade) and Carson (5th grade) who have attended school here at SC since preschool. Seth is a forest engineer for a local forestry company. We enjoy gardening on our acreage, traveling, and spending time with our boys. Our family enjoys worshiping God with our Suburban Christian family.

I am always excited to meet parents and establish open lines of communication as a Santiam Christian Community. In an effort to meet you, I am planning some "Connections with the Principal." Please also plan to attend our Family Movie Night and Harvest Celebration where you will get a chance to connect with other families as well.

**Connection Times -Dates Include:**

New Parent Orientation: Monday, August 22 7:00 p.m. If you are new family to SC please join us on Monday night to meet other new families and here about info for our pre-school and elementary families

Family Movie Night: August 26 at 6:30 p.m. - Food trucks are available so bring a picnic dinner or plan to purchase one here. Grab a blanket or lawn chairs and plan to come visit with

families, connect with old friends, enjoy a meal and movie on the lawn in front of the elementary school.

Harvest Celebration: Friday, September 9, 3:00-7:00 p.m. This is the premier event of the year and fun for all ages. Fun old fashion carnival style games, bounce houses, booths selling popcorn, soda and pie and a delicious dinner served by our school board. Top it off by heading over to watch the football game. Mark your calendars now for this amazing event and look for details to purchase dinner tickets.

Morning Coffee with the Principal for **Kinder Families Only**: Monday, Sept. 12th at 8:10 a.m. after drop off in lawn in front of the elementary school

Morning Coffee Chat with the Principal for all elementary and preschool families: Friday, Sept. 16 at 8:10 a.m. after drop off on the lawn in front of the elementary school

### **New Additions to the Eagle Team - Please Welcome:**

**Olivia Johnson** will return to our SC family as a recess aide.

**Rae Chronicle**, a recent graduate of West Albany HS, is pursuing her teaching career and will join us as a recess aide.

**Rebecca Ball** who is a mother to three children at SC will be joining us as a reading assistant for 2nd/3rd grade classrooms.

**Rachel McGregor** will join us part time as student support. She is a mother to 6 six kids and has home schooled for many years. She is here to help kids problem solve and complete work. She will be present in classrooms and in the Eagle's Nest.

**Erin Schirmer** will be our new full time PE teacher. She is the mother to four children and recently worked as an aide in our PE classes.

**Hailey Mehlschau (formerly Hailey James, a recess aide) and Jessica Hoopes** will be supporting our kindergarten students by being aides in our classrooms.

**Charlene Stefan** will be joining us as a kindergarten teacher. She brings 20+ years of kindergarten teaching experience and a passion for 5 year olds. She is a mother to three grown children and the wife of our new Superintendent.

**Sam Meisenhelder**- Sam had lots of fun in 2022 graduating from George Fox University and completing his student teaching right here at Santiam Christian in third grade. He is now joining us as a Second grade teacher.

**Michelle Euhus** - Michelle will be joining the SC family along with her four children who will be students at SC. She previously taught at the elementary level for many years and will be joining us as an intervention teacher.

**Tiffany Carter** - Mother of three students at SC and long time elementary classroom teacher will join us a couple hours a week as our Student Success Coordinator to coordinate success plans, interventions, testing and special education services.

We are still hiring for a third section of first grade, our art teacher, our science lab teacher, a two day recess aide, and a two day cafeteria monitor.

Blessings on your Family-

Anna Marie Gosser

SC Elementary Principal