

Greetings Sequoia Eagles!

I am so proud to be the new principal of Sequoia Academy, a GATE Magnet Elementary School. As a former student in the Westminster School District, I am committed to ensuring your family feels confident they are receiving the best education for their students. I am excited to be working with such amazing groups of staff, students, parents, and community members. I am excited to work with you as your partner in ensuring your child's educational success. I look forward to meeting you!

This year, I begin my 17<sup>th</sup> year as a GATE certified educator in the Westminster School District. In that time, I have had the opportunity to serve in many district roles, including classroom teacher and as an Instructional Support Specialist, working side by side with teachers at every elementary school in WSD. In that role, I served as a key member of the adoption committee for ELA and Math Common Core State Standards (CCSS). I am a National Trainer for *Thinking Maps* and *Write from the Beginning and Beyond*, two important district initiatives that support metacognitive thinking and writing. In addition, I am an Orange County STEM specialist with Kids@Science.

As a STEAM GATE Magnet Academy, we provide students with several pathways to academic excellence, such as, an academically rigorous AVID program that offers STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math) rotations, rigorous curriculum based on the Common Core State Standards, and classrooms rich with GATE icons to add more depth and complexity to the lessons and to meet all of our students' diverse learning needs. Students in our program are empowered to develop essential skills such as innovation, persistence, collaboration, and leadership, all highly sought after skills in our world today.

We also believe that school should be a positive place for our students. Our staff collaborates to build safe and supportive relationships with all students. Our classrooms are engaging with technology and hands-on activities, and when you walk through the doors, you can hear learning come alive! Visit us today to find out about how to tour our school and see all of our amazing programs in action.

At Sequoia, we know our parents are vital to our success. We invite you to participate in our school community through a variety of volunteer opportunities. From supporting school activities, being a member of the PTA, or serving on a governing council, there is an opportunity for everyone.

I am proud to become a Sequoia Eagle and join this committed learning community! I look forward to working with all our families to ensure each child's success!