

July 2018

Dear Washington Community,

Happy Summer Wildcats!

I hope this letter finds you enjoying the summer vacation. I am thrilled to be the new principal at Washington and look forward to getting to know all of you very soon! I was impressed by my visits to campus - the incredibly beautiful Library and STEM lab, friendly office staff, and of course the majestic ocean view. Washington and SB Unified staff have been very helpful and welcoming as I transition here from Irvine. I recently met with the PTO Board and plan to attend all of our Back to School events in August.



As you know from the May press release, I have been in Education for 16 years, including time spent as an elementary teacher, Teacher Education Program Coordinator at UC Irvine and Elementary School Principal (Redondo Beach and Irvine). I earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Communication from University of California Santa Barbara, Master of Arts degree in Teaching and Administrative Credential from University California Irvine, and a Master of Science degree in Reading from California State University Fullerton.

Most recently I served as the fearless leader at a large elementary school in Irvine where we were passionate about learning, working hard, showing kindness, and being brave. I pride myself on having a joyful attitude and reaching for my personal best. I believe that every day of learning is precious! Classrooms are a wonderful place for teachers and students to take intellectual risks, innovate, make mistakes, and grow. Schools are hubs of adults and children working together, asking questions, and solving problems. Washington is where we can connect, contribute, create, have fun, and celebrate our hard work. We should all feel safe, cared for, and demonstrate compassion and empathy every day.

I created three separate surveys in order to gather information about the Washington community. The anonymous responses will help me learn more about the climate and culture at Washington.

Staff: <https://goo.gl/forms/RgVpmiXZpNjUnwl12>

Parents: <https://goo.gl/forms/c4N1U5YEPVu9dXlm1>

*Students: <https://goo.gl/forms/P1H3SACQQWPMS3nl2>

**All students are encouraged to complete the survey. 3rd-6th graders can complete independently and primary age children may need adult support with reading and responding. Thank you!*

A little bit more about me... My husband Clark and I both grew up in the Central Valley. Our families live and work up and down the state of CA. Clark and I have spent most of our adult lives in Southern California. We have a strong connection to the American Riviera. I am a proud Gaucho alumna and my husband and I were engaged in Isla Vista and married at Elings Park. We look forward to getting involved in the community, spending time out on the ocean, dining, and soaking up all that the Santa Barbara has to offer our family.

I truly believe that *teamwork makes the dreamwork* and look forward to having a strong school-family partnership in order to help our students be successful. I hope to see you at one or more of these upcoming events:

- ★ Sunday, August 19th, 12:00-3:00pm: Campus Beautification Day & Class Lists Posted
- ★ Tuesday, August 21st from 2:00-3:00pm: Kindergarten Meet & Greet with Principal, Teachers and PTO
- ★ Wednesday, August 22nd: First Day of School!
- ★ Wednesday, August 22nd: Welcome Coffee with Principal and PTO
- ★ Friday, August 24th: Back to School Picnic/BBQ (evening)
- ★ Thursday, September 6th: Back to School Night

Go Wildcats!

With PRIDE,

Mrs. Giguere