

August, 2022

Dear Parents and Guardians,

My name is Michael Whiteley and I am truly honored to be your child's Math and Social Studies teacher for the 2022-2023 school year. I am beginning my twenty-fourth year of teaching for the Downingtown Area School District. I have primarily taught fifth grade at Brandywine Wallace, Springton Manor, and Uwchlan Hills Elementary. I have experience leading a variety of summer camps within the district, and I also served as elementary math curriculum leader for grades three to five a number of years ago.

I will certainly foster high expectations and classroom traditions that will include all learners. I know quite well the success and level of excellence that trademark Uwchlan Hills as a thriving vibrant school. I am so thrilled about teaching in this dedicated and wonderful learning community. I love teaching Math and I look to spread that math enthusiasm I have to all of my students. Teaching primary, intermediate, and adolescent students has given me a wealth of experiences that I take with me each day into the classroom. In addition to being certified K-6, I also have a high school secondary certificate, and spent a brief time working with at-risk youth in Downingtown East High School. I have both a Master degree in Instructional Leadership, and a K-12 Principal Certification from Penn State University. I incorporate a variety of learning modalities into my teaching, and always look to coordinate small flexible grouping throughout the classroom in order to individually meet the needs of each student. In my classes, students never wait for others to "get finished". Instead, there are always a variety of enrichment activities to challenge their intellectual curiosity. Enrichment is interwoven throughout all of my lessons through an open-ended approach so that students have the opportunity to elaborate and take most assignments as far as they wish.

When I am not teaching I enjoy spending time with my wife Natalie, who is also an educator, and our two active sons. Please know how much I am looking forward to getting to know you and your fifth grader. Together, we are going to have a great school year. **I am looking forward to seeing you at our Back to School Night at Uwchlan Hills on August 23rd.** If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact me at mwhiteley@dasd.org. I'm so excited to begin my twenty-fourth year of teaching for the Downingtown Area School District with your child.

Respectfully yours,
Michael J. Whiteley
Uwchlan Hills Elementary