Hello! My name is Michele Suarez. I’m very excited to be your child’s 2nd grade teacher. This is my fourth year teaching at Battle Creek Elementary School. My family moved from Florida in the summer of 2015. I grew up in the Willamette Valley and I’m so happy to be living here again.

I’m looking forward to getting to know you and your child and working together as a team in order to help your child succeed! Here is my contact information: **phone:** 503-399-2062 **email**: suarez\_michele@salkiez.k12.or.us, **classroom website:** http://mssuarezclassroom.weebly.com

**Classroom Schedule**

School hours are 9:15 am to 3:30 pm. The school doors open at 9:05. To avoid being marked tardy, students must be in their classroom by 9:15.

Our morning routine is as follows: 1) enter the classroom quietly 2) place backpack in cubby, lunchbox in lunch tub, turn in Monday Folders (on Monday) 3) Quietly being morning work

For your child’s safety please send a written note or call the office at (503)399-2062 to change the way your child goes home.

9:05 – 9:25 Morning work, announcements

9:25-11:00 Reading

10:30 Morning Recess

11:00-11:30 Intervention/Read-to-self

11:30-12:00 Writing

12:00-12:20 Recess /12:20-12:40 Lunch

12:50-1:05 Number Corner

1:05-2:05 Math

2:05-2:20 Social/Emotional Development

2:20-2:50 PE/Library/Music

2:50-3:20 Science/Art/Health

3:20-3:30 Pack up/announcements

3:30 Dismissal

**Classroom Expectations**

Our class will be our school family. Students will be held responsible for their actions and have an opportunity to correct a mistake they have made. This will develop a safe, respectful environment for all students. Our class will follow the school-wide BEAR expectations throughout the day in all classes, including the cafeteria and recess: Be safe, Eager to learn, Accept responsibility, Respect others.

First and foremost: If you mess up, fess up, fix it and move on. Most of the minor misbehaviors can be solved this way.

**Rewards**

Rewards include specific verbal praise, 2nd Grade Bear Bucks, Bear Tickets, extra computer time, free time, and Market Day (time to spend 2nd Grade Bear Bucks!)

**2nd Grade Bear Bucks and Market Days**

2nd Grade has created its own currency. Bear Bucks come in $1, $5, $10, $20, $50, and $100 denominations. Students earn Bear Bucks for completed homework, working as a team, and for displaying BEAR characteristics.

Team points are given to teams who are on task, following directions, and working together. Team points are never taken away. Teams with the most points at the end of the day will receive a Bear Buck.

Bear Bucks can be spent on Market Days. Market Days will be announced in the monthly newsletter.

Market Day is a grade-level shopping day for students with Bear Bucks. We welcome volunteers on those days! Donations are also welcome and may include Dollar Store items or gently-used books and toys.

**Homework**

The only homework your second grader must do is read 20 minutes a day. A monthly reading log will be sent home in your child’s Monday Folder. Every day that your child reads you will mark the number of minutes read and initial it. For every 10 minutes read, your child will receive 1 Bear Buck to spend at our 2nd grade Market Day. For example 430 minutes = 43 Bear Bucks. It’s that easy.

**Reading**

2nd graders are expected to read 90 words per minute by the end of the school year. To achieve this goal it is important for them to read 20 minutes a night. This can be done independently, or with an adult or sibling. Listening to fluent readers is also very beneficial. Your child may choose their own book as long as it is not too easy, not too hard, but just right. Occasionally, I will send a reader home for homework. It will be included in your child’s Monday Folder.

**Birthdays**

Our class will celebrate student birthdays on their special day with a birthday bundle from the teacher. Students are also invited to visit Mrs. Dougherty for a special treat. If you would like, you may send in a store-bought treat to share with the class. We will share the treat the last 30 minutes of the day, or if we have Music we will share it at lunch.

Summer birthdays will be celebrated the first week of June. I will coordinate with the parents of those students.

**2018-2019 2nd Grade School Supplies**

All children need a backpack to transport their belongings to and from school. Monday Folders will have school-wide announcements as well as classroom newsletters, homework log, and completed work.

Please check your child’s Monday Folder for information that may require your attention, as well as for work your child has completed the previous week.

* 1 box (24) crayons
* 1 box (10) colored markers
* 1 box (12) colored pencils
* 2 pink erasers
* 2 spiral, single-subject, wide-rule notebooks
* 1 pair of scissors
* 6 glue sticks \*
* 24 #2 pencils – no mechanical \*
* 1 box (4) dry erase, black \*
* 1 large box of tissues \*
* 1 package of baby wipes \*

**\*Non-labeled items – classroom supply**