Mrs. Kelly Greblo

2700 NW Glencoe Road

Hillsboro, OR 97124

September 12, 2011

Dear wonderful new student,

As your teacher this year I wanted to take some time to write you a personal letter about myself so that you could get to know some about me personally. I graduated from Glencoe in 2000. While I was a student I was involved in Drama, Student Council: ASB, the Newspaper Staff, and Varsity Girl’s Lacrosse. I really enjoyed my years as a student at Glencoe. All these years later, I even have lasting friends I met at Glencoe. After high school I went to Linfield College and majored in Theater Arts and minored in Communication Arts (I was on the Linfield Speech and Debate Team). I loved Linfield and I’d like to thank that experience for uniting me with my best friend, Joe.

After I graduated I held a handful of different positions in a variety of fields trying to understand what I wanted “to be when I grew up.” I was a clerk in a discount clothing store, a studio-trained professional makeup artist, I counted money in a room alone with a huge safe in a department store, a cashier in a pizza restaurant, and last but not least I was a concert security guard at the Roseland Theater in Portland. Then finally, I faced the music and decided to be the teacher I knew I was. I applied for graduate school and was accepted at Lewis and Clark College and graduated with my Masters in Teaching in 2007.

But, as usual that wasn’t enough; I had to go back to my roots: Alaska. You see, I was born in Anchorage (Alaska) to Ma and Pa Turner in 1982. I had a lovely childhood on the ‘Last Frontier’ until my parents moved us to Oregon in 1993, I was eleven. I spent my sixth grade year at W. Vern McKinney Elementary, and my middle school years at Evergreen (just like most of you in here). My Mom is a pediatric physical therapist; she lives and works in Houston Texas now. My Dad lives in Arizona, Oregon and Alaska during different times of the year and works in Prudhoe Bay Alaska in the oil field as a facilities operator for the Trans Alaska Pipeline. My sister Katelyn is 26 and by profession are a river rafting/sea kayaking guide, “world traveler” and snow boarder. My brother Grant is 22 and a senior at Gonzaga University in Spokane, Washington.

My first two years of teaching were spent on an Indian Reservation on a tiny island in Southeast Alaska, off of the road system, only reachable by boat or small bush plane: Annette Island. I taught English and Drama in Metlakatla at Metlakatla High School. It was one of the most beautiful places I have ever visited or lived in my entire life. But, life up North isn’t easy and I missed Portland so much I returned to teach at Glencoe last school year.

I married (my other) best friend, Todd a year ago in Troncones, Mexico on the beach. I met him during graduate school. Todd is in graduate school to be a Speech Language Pathologist. We just bought our first house (so exciting) in Southeast Portland. We live there with our two cats, Zeke (all gray) and Ziggy ‘tripod’ Stardust (gray with white feet and belly).

When I’m not at school I enjoy: cooking, camping, XC skiing, seeing indie and foreign films, traveling, venturing out for live music shows and concerts, shopping for anything vintage, walking, YOGA!, crocheting, writing letters, reading, gardening, and being crafty.

I want this to be the best year! I want that every year, I think because I have a positive attitude about school and what I can bring to your education (and what you can bring to my classroom). So, let’s make it happen! Now, it’s your turn- write me a letter about you.

**Be sure to address the key areas below:**

* Your History: Birthplace, places you’ve lived, etc.
* Family: who you live with, their names and ages, what they do, what do you do together, etc.
* School: Schools you’ve attended, how you feel about school, your successes and opportunities in school
* Hobbies/Interests: tell me about your varied activities at school or outside of school, your hobbies, your interests during your time on this planet
* English last year: How was English class for you last year? What were your strengths and your opportunities as a learner?
* Goals: I want you to set two goals for yourself in this class this year (example: “This year I want…,” etc.)
* Anything I need to know about you: This letter is the place for you to tell me anything I should know about you, your life, your past, etc. I will not share this letter with any of my students it is between us.

**Letter Requirements:**

* Typed OR Handwritten
* There is no required length (so don’t ask!)- If you address ALL of the key areas above then you will do great!
* Must be creative (feel free to use colored ink, colored paper, make an envelope, include drawings or pictures, etc.)
* Follow the “Format for a Friendly or Personal Letter” handout
* If you type it: your font options are – anything you want! (As long as I can read It ☺ ).
* Due Dates:
  + ROUGH DRAFT - A Day Classes, Weds. 9/14/11, B Day Classes, Thurs. 9/15/11
  + FINAL DRAFT - A Day Classes, Fri. 9/16/11, B Day Classes, Mon. 9/19/11

I’m looking forward to a fabulously RADtastic year with you all!!

Cheerfully,

Mrs. Greblo