

Internship Academy Newsletter

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WELCOMING OUR LARGEST CLASS OF INTERNS

The Internship Academy is excited to be back to school with the largest class of interns since the program began in the fall of 2015. Fifty-eight interns are placed in schools in Southwest Missouri and the St. Louis area. This month, interns have been involved in professional development with their placement schools, new teacher induction programs, and back to school events such as meet the teacher, jump start conferences, and district kick off meetings.

August 24 and August 25 marked the first days of school as interns began co-teaching face-to-face, virtually, or in a hybrid format. This year looks unlike any previous IA year as we navigate the current situation with the COVID-19 global pandemic. We are working within district established safety protocols as well as Missouri State University policies for reducing risk of illness.

PARTNER SCHOOLS

New Partners:

Meramec Elementary School, School District of Clayton
Avery Elementary School, Webster Groves School District
Price Elementary School, Republic School District
Sparta Elementary School, Sparta School District
Eunice Thomas Elementary School, Cassville School District
Cassville Intermediate School, Cassville School District

Returning Partners:

Hudson Elementary School, Webster Groves School District
Clark Elementary School, Webster Groves School District
Glenridge Elementary School, School District of Clayton
Wanda Gray Elementary School, Springfield Public Schools
Willard South Elementary School, Willard School District
Logan-Rogersville Primary School, Logan-Rogersville School District
Logan-Rogersville Elementary School, Logan-Rogersville School District
John Thomas School of Discovery, Nixa Public Schools
Summit Intermediate School, Nixa Public Schools
Mathews Elementary School, Nixa Public Schools
High Pointe Elementary School, Nixa Public Schools



INTERN HIGHLIGHT - LEAH LASBURY

4RD GRADE, AVERY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, WEBSTER GROVES



Hi, my name is Leah Lasbury. I have the honor of being an intern at Avery Elementary in Webster Groves, MO. This is a very special year for Missouri State and Webster Groves School District because this is Avery's first year hosting interns. My experience at Avery Elementary has been phenomenal. As we all know, the beginning of this school year looks quite different than in the past. Instead of preparing our physical classroom to welcome students, we have been busy setting up different learning platforms. One platform that we have spent time learning is Canvas. I enjoy working on Canvas because it allows me to express my creativity. I've managed to navigate the school website, Bitmoji Classroom, Clever, Zoom, and a few others.

Along with some professional development, my cooperating teacher and I met with families for Jump Start conferences through Zoom. These conferences allowed parents and guardians to share their hopes and wishes for their child for this school year. I truly enjoyed these conversations because it gave me the opportunity to meet families and students and to take note of their aspirations for this school year. I also was able to personally introduce myself to the families of Webster Groves when I volunteered for Avery's supply pick up night. It was a heartwarming experience to see the students and their families.

In addition to becoming familiar with online platforms and meeting students and families, I've also been able to chat with team members and the wonderful staff at Avery. It is evident that one of the highest priorities at Avery is to form relationships with students. My cooperating teacher is an amazing role model who shows enthusiasm and is extremely passionate about teaching. She inspires me to be the best I can be, learn from my experiences, celebrate my accomplishments, and focus on what really matters...making a difference in the lives of my students.

INTERN HIGHLIGHT - SUMMER HEDRICK

3RD GRADE, WILLARD SOUTH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



This will be my third week with my third-grade team and my master teacher at Willard South and the second day with kids in the classroom. I am beyond exhausted! Throughout this process, people have told me that I will be, but I did not understand the magnitude until now. As education majors, we are well aware teachers are under-appreciated for their hard work. What I didn't know is the amount of work put in during specials, lunches, after school, while kids are working and every second in between.

I am grateful to have this experience, especially considering our unusual circumstances this year. In the last few days, my teacher has thanked me immensely for all my help as she knows what it's like to take on a classroom alone. I feel like following this experience at Willard South with my master teacher, grade level team, as well as a whole list of supporters, I will feel more prepared and confident to face my very own classroom next year.

