10 Ways to Raise a Reader

- * Read to your child every day.
- * Continue to read together even after your child learns to read on his/her own.
- * Make stories come alive for your child when you read. Use different voices.
- * Be patient—let your child read aloud at his/her own pace.
- * Discuss what you read together.
- * Make reading time special. Cuddle up, enjoy a snack, have a special reading spot.
- * Encourage your child to read at least 15 minutes each day.
- * Take along your child's favorite books wherever you go.
- * Take your child to the library often and check out a variety of age appropriate books.
- *Be a role model—read on your own.

- REMEMBER -

By encouraging your child to read, you are helping to ensure school success.

Parental Affirmations

"From the moment he walked into your class, he found out that learning can be fun and that school can be about more than work. Thank you for seeing all the specialness about him that I see and even more."

-Marlene VanderVeen, 1st grade parent

"You took the time to really get to know Carson...you genuinely cared for him and his success at school."

-Aimee Kunnen, 1st grade parent

"We seriously could not imagine a more amazing teacher for him than you." -Kathy Girschle, 1st grade parent

"You have really helped her come out of her shell this school year. Too bad it's not like Little House on the Prairiewhere students have the same teacher for all grades."

--Steven Salhaney, 1st grade parent

You were the one who got him to LOVE school! The way I see it, you were his "first love"!

--Kelly Cleveland, 1st grade parent

"My teacher is perfect for me...she knows exactly what I need." -Courtney DeWent, 1st grader

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Julie Van Dyken



Bursley Elementary Jenison Public Schools

Phone: 457-8488, ext. 2655 Email: jvandyke@jpsonline.org

Meet the Teacher

I am Julie Jeanette, calm, reliable, honest, wife of Dale and mother of Trenton and Alexa.

I love music, laughter and mint-chocolate chip ice cream,
I despise hate, prejudice and coconut,

I strive to make a difference,

I am a resident of Coopersville,

Van Dyken!



Lifelong Learning

Since graduating from Grand Valley State University in 2000, I have taught in several different teaching positions. The first five years of my career was spent supporting students with special needs in grades 4-6. In September of 2005, I expanded my knowledge of children by teaching first grade. I tried my hand at second grade for a year, but felt a true "calling" to return to first grade and did so for five years. For the second year in a row, I am thrilled to call Bursley my home. I love serving students as an Intervention Specialist!!

Throughout my time of service with Jenison Public Schools, I obtained an additional teaching endorsement in the education of early elementary students, completed my Master's Degree in Special Education, with an emphasis on Early Childhood Developmental Delays and served as an adjunct professor at Grand Valley State University in their Early Childhood Education graduate program.

Teacher Greatness

Great teachers live a life of teaching. They look for tools for their teaching toolbox wherever they go. They not only present information, but inspire learning and self-worth. The great teacher adjusts her efforts to meet the needs of her students. There is nothing the great teacher would not do to further her students' success. Great teachers help students reach their fullest potential in all areas.

While I would not say that I have mastered "teacher greatness", I certainly do promise to do my absolute best each and every day and to never stop working towards the goal that each of my students reach their absolute fullest potential with their academic and social growth!!

"They may forget what you said, but they will never forget how you made them feel."

-- Author Unknown