I am Heather Wright, your child’s English 9 teacher. I am very excited to begin my sixth year teaching at Munford High School with your child. I really love teaching, because I feel like I have a lot of potential to make a positive impact in your child’s life. In 9th grade, students are venturing into the world of high school and all that comes with it. They will begin to think about the ACT, college/careers, and the “real world,” all while trying to figure out who they are becoming as a human being. It is the perfect time, as a teacher, to help empower students for the rest of their lives. I know this because I had amazing teachers in high school who helped me get to where I am today, and I would love to be one of those teachers for your child.

English 9 includes: Daily Grammar Practice, vocabulary, human relationships and the consequences, the hero’s journey, the search for justice, and the values that define society. I have designed the course to be a rich, engaging, and thought-provoking experience that helps students become better readers, writers, listeners, speakers, and most of all, critical thinkers. My philosophy as a teacher is to equip students with transferrable skills, so that what they learn in English class actually helps them in real life. I consider myself a very practical teacher in this sense, and I know that engaging your child and providing genuine connections to literature is paramount. Ten years from now, it will not matter if your child can recite the cast of Romeo and Juliet or explain in detail the plot of To Kill a Mockingbird. What will matter is your child’s ability to think critically and respond to a text, to recognize and internalize timeless themes, and to understand this crazy world through literature.

Since you are the “expert” on your child and know far more about him/her than I ever will, I just wanted to take the time to introduce myself and open up the lines of communication. Your child should have brought home their syllabus with this letter; if so, please look at it so you can have a better understanding of what’s to come this school year. Also, I wanted to make you aware of an email/text reminder service called Remind, which I will be using this year to communicate with students and parents who opt in. This service sends one-way texts or emails (your preference) to remind students and parents about upcoming assignments, quizzes, or tests and other relevant information. I am attaching sign-up information to this letter. Please encourage your child to sign up for texts or emails, as this is one extra support in place to help him/her succeed.

Together, we can make a difference in the life of your child. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any information, questions, or concerns. Email is the best way to contact me, but I am open to phone calls during my planning period (3rd and 7th), after school, or conferences at your request. I look forward to meeting you and working with you to ensure your child has a successful year in English 9 and an opportunistic future.

Thanks,

Heather Wright
heather.wright@tcboe.org

Parents & Guardians,
If you could please take the time to sign below to confirm that you have read this letter, I would appreciate it. Also, please write down the best way for me to contact you—with your contact information—should I ever need to.

X ______________________________________

Contact (phone number/email): ____________________________________________________________

Any initial comments, concerns, or questions that will help me teach your child:

____________________________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________________

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