



Walla Walla Public Schools Classroom Close-Up



TEACHER NAME: Sara Heimbigner

SCHOOL: Edison Elementary

Position: Music Teacher

YEARS IN DISTRICT: 3 years

Q. What skills do the students learn by the time they finish your program?

A. By the time they finish elementary school, they are able to keep and maintain a steady beat, play a variety of instruments with proper technique and sing a variety of repertoire. They also learn to enjoy and appreciate different types of music.

Q. Why is a comprehensive school music program important?

A. Music is a valuable tool. It reaches kids in a special way. I've seen students who struggle in reading and math excel in the music room. It gives them a place they can feel safe and experiment to try new things such as writing songs and playing instruments.

Q. How do you manage working with the entire student body?

A. It can be challenging. I start the day with 4th & 5th graders and end the day with kindergarten. It is a good change of pace throughout the day and allows the schedule to move quickly.

Q. How do you incorporate technology into your instruction?

A. Using technology has been a great way to engage the students. We use clickers to help them with assessments and answering questions. We have students draw their own vocal explorations and they love the opportunity to engage with the SmartBoard and the class at the same time.

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MOMENTS & MEMORIES
This building is a blessing. I love it! We can dance, get our instruments out, and use the risers for singing. It's fabulous to be somewhere that is so spacious and conducive to music education.



COMMENTS FROM SARA:
My Spanish is very basic, but I embrace speaking Spanish with my students and try to incorporate both languages into the lessons.

This is my fourth year teaching and my third in the district. I love it and it is exactly what I want to do. I'm excited to be here.



I grew up in Walla Walla and graduated from Wa-Hi. I am currently preoccupied planning my summer wedding! I also like crafts and working out at the YMCA.