Hello Parents,

 I am incredibly excited to begin the 2015-2016 school year with your talented 5th grade student. This is my fourth year here at Crescent Academy, as well as my fourth year teaching 5th grade. I really enjoy teaching students in 5th grade, it is truly a transitional year for students and I enjoy helping them to make the transition from elementary to middle school easier. Previously, I taught Spanish to pre-school aged children and ran a summer camp over the span of two summers. I received my bachelors of Education from Eastern Michigan University with a focus in Language Arts and Spanish education. Although I studied to become fluent in Spanish, I am now slowly learning small Arabic phrases! I am also currently working on my masters degree from EMU in Educational Psychology. I am really enjoying this major because I believe that each student is gifted and is an individual with different needs and different learning styles. I strive to get to know each one of my students on a personal level. I feel that once a connection has been made with a student, it is much easier for them to feel comfortable in their environment, which helps to accelerate learning. In my years of teaching, I’ve learned that if a child does not feel secure in the classroom, it is extremely difficult for them to learn. I try to make each and every one of my students feel confident and at ease in the classroom, as it is truly a home away from home. I also believe that school should make students feel empowered and confident; and as a teacher, that is my goal. As I mentioned, I believe that each student has individual learning styles and it is a teacher’s job to recognize what works with each special student. To reinforce this idea, I invite and encourage you to view the short video titled, “Animal School”. I have provided a link below.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o8limRtHZPs>

 Personally, I am extremely close with my family. I have one younger brother and am very close to him and both of my parents. We’ve traveled to many places together and try to spend as much time as possible with one another, we’re truly each other’s best friends! One of the things that I fell in love with when I came to Crescent was how family centered the school was. Additionally, the school atmosphere feels like one large family, and I am so honored to have been welcomed into it.

 The best way for you to contact me is through e-mail, my Crescent e-mail address is agarland@Crescentacademy.org. I will do my very best to respond to you in a timely manner. You may also find all updated home-study and information on my weebly, which is updated daily. My weebly address is [www.srallie.weebly.com](http://www.srallie.weebly.com). I look forward to a fruitful and successful year with your talented student.

Best,

Sr. Allie