

Meet Ms. Near



Hi! My name is Ms. Near, and this year I'm going to be teaching 6th grade ELA and RTI! For 20 years, I taught at CES; 12 years as a 1st grade teacher, and 8 years as a 4th grade ELA and Social Studies teacher. This will be my fourth year teaching at the middle school, and I'm so excited to welcome all the new 6th graders! It's going to be a great year!

My career in Education began many years ago, as the oldest of 5 children. Teaching just became second nature, as I grew up helping with my siblings. I graduated from SUNY New Paltz with a Bachelor's Degree in Science, and a concentration in Psychology. I then went on to complete my graduate work at New Paltz as well, and received my Masters in Literacy. After I graduated, I was lucky to begin my teaching career at Catskill Elementary when the new building opened in 2002.

Fast-forward 24 years later, and my life is busy and full with my family, two crazy puppies, and a kitten! My son, Gavin, is 19 and will be a Sophomore at the University of Hartford, and my daughter, Ella, is 16 and will be a Junior here at CHS! They keep me quite busy with sports and activities. When I'm not busy being a mom, I love to read, go on walks/hikes, swim, crochet, garden, and do craft and home-improvement projects.

This year is going to be awesome! I hope you're ready! 💜