Dear Fifth Grade Families,

I can't believe my student teaching term is almost over! It has been a great semester and it has been a joy to be a part of your student's education for this part of my education. They have taught me a lot, as I hope I have taught them a lot as well. This is the last step in the process for me to obtain my Post-Baccalaureate Teacher Certification in elementary education from Eastern Michigan University with endorsements in math and science.

I am excited to share with you the news that I will be filling in for Mrs. Hilton during her maternity leave! Mrs. Hilton's baby is due the middle of January and I will transition in as her replacement once she has the baby. It is my goal that this transition goes as seamless as possible. All of Mrs. Hilton's classroom policies and procedures will remain in place during my interim stay in the classroom. You can anticipate that everything in place with curriculum, instruction, and assessment will carry forward status quo. I will also be working closely with Mrs. Davis in our team-teaching environment, as well as the other fifth grade and specials teachers to ensure that your student's needs in the classroom continue to be met.

I am looking forward to continuing the relationship with your student and your family during the winter/spring of their fifth grade year. Mrs. Hilton will return sometime in April or May depending on when the baby is born. Shortly after the first of the year, I will be sending an additional note home that contains an email address that you will be able to use to contact me. In the meantime, I hope your family enjoys a wonderful holiday season and I look forward to working with you and your student in 2010.

Educationally yours,

Mrs. Laura Weakland