



## Welcome to Mrs. Winters' Physical Science!

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To the Amazing Boulder Creek 8<sup>th</sup> grade Parents,

Welcome back to a new school year at Boulder Creek Middle School. My name is Mrs. Lisa Winters and I will be your child's 8<sup>th</sup> grade physical science teacher this year. This is my fourth official year of teaching middle school, with 11 years of prior teaching experience teaching dance, tennis, and tutoring at the elementary *through* college level with my student teaching experience being in junior high science as well as high school Physics. Your Child will be in good hands this year!

I graduated with my bachelors in Physics from Sacramento State University in 2009 and continued on to receive my teaching credentials in Physics, General Science, and Mathematics. Before starting our careers my husband and I went to serve at an orphanage in Mexico for a year. While there I was able to tutor many children not only in academics but also in life. My passion to teach children has grown while I was in Mexico and I am excited to teach each and every student that enters the classroom not only in academics but in life. I have taught 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade mathematics using common core curriculum and as most of you know the last two years I taught 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade science here at Boulder Creek. Going into my third year of teaching the same subject I am feeling very confident in the improvements I have made in my lessons and looking forward to a wonderful year of fun and learning.

I'm eager to get started with this new year of nothing but science and with this great group of 8<sup>th</sup> graders. I am confident that together we'll have a fun and productive year. I am excited to be able to spend the first half of the year with nothing but 8<sup>th</sup> grade science as the students will not be learning History until the last half of the year (January 2016).

My goal this year is to create scientists by teaching in a fun, relatable way so that my students can *understand the concepts* and *apply* them to their everyday life. This will be accomplished through hands-on, experiment-led learning, thought provoking questions, lessons using teacher guidance for student discovery to build a *lasting* knowledge, and challenging students to be flexible and active in their thinking. We will move beyond the factual knowledge, to the application of that knowledge to our everyday lives! By the end of the year each student will be familiar with the California State Standards for their grade level. I believe that parent involvement is pivotal to the success of each student and I plan to work closely as a team with each parent to ensure the success of their child. This year you will learn through discovery and exploration.

To prepare for this year, I polished the curriculum over the summer and planned some fun and exciting experiments and projects. Thank you so much for all your help. I look forward to meeting you soon. Let's have a great year together! Feel free to contact me with concerns, questions or suggestions!

Sincerely,  
Mrs. Lisa Winters