



Hudson, August 30th, 2017

Dear 5th grade Parent/ Guardian,

☺*Olá!* Allow me to introduce myself and to explain the purpose of this letter.

I am Maria Almeida, the **Portuguese Teacher** at Quinn Middle School. I have been teaching for the past 21 years, 5 years in Portugal and 16 years in the USA. I was born and raised in the island of Faial in the Azores, where my family still lives. I go back to visit almost every summer with my husband and children.

I decided to be a teacher many years ago because I wanted to do something that would make a difference in other people's lives. I hope this year proves to be, like my past years, a rewarding experience for all of us. I am looking forward to meeting and working with my students this school year, to see them learning with enthusiasm and with respect for one another. We are going to be doing all kinds of activities, including listening activities, projects, role-playing, etc. Students are going to develop their listening, reading, writing and oral skills in the foreign language.

The most important thing in learning a language is to **PRACTICE**. That is why, most of the time, your child's homework will be to use his/her vocabulary sheets and/or flashcards to practice the vocabulary learned in class. Eventhough we only meet every other day, I would suggest a **daily practice** of 10 to 15 minutes.

The main purpose of World Language at Quinn is to introduce students to the language in a fun and engaging way. That is my objective. In order to be successful I will need your help and support. **Communication** between teachers and parents/guardians is, as you know, the best way to guarantee the **success and quality of the student's education**. It is therefore, my desire to establish a means of communication and a good relationship with you. With this in mind, I created my own website to allow you to keep track of what we are doing in class, as well as of what is required of students in terms of assignments, homework, etc. The website is www.malmeidateacher.weebly.com.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns, or if I can assist you in any way. My email is malmeida@hudson.k12.ma.us

I hope to hear from you soon.

My best regards,

Maria Almeida