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March 31st, 2016

Dear Families and Caregivers,

Hello, my name is Rachel Hallock and I will be working as a student teacher for the next six weeks in your student's science classroom (taught by Mrs. Patelunas). I am working towards a certification teaching science 7th through 12th grade, specializing in Physics and Earth Sciences. This is the final semester of my training as a teacher. I have also had experience student teaching with students at the high school level in my last student teaching placement and enjoyed working with elementary and middle school age students through other education experiences. I'm looking forward to this unique learning opportunity in your student's eighth grade science classroom.

I'm originally from Albany, but have been learning and teaching in Ithaca for six years. Besides getting practical experience with student by being in my Masters of Arts in Teaching (MAT) program for the past year, I have also worked for two years in Ithaca as an environmental educator at the Cayuga Nature Center. Outside of working with children, some of my interests include hiking and reading. My goal upon graduating is to obtain a teaching position in a school that focuses on inclusivity, interdisciplinary learning, and growth mindset. These are the ideals I try to incorporate into my own classroom. In addition, I am very interested in finding ways to integrate literacy into science instruction and I am hoping to assist your student in reading to learn for science.

I will be working with the students in your student's class until May 6th. This week I will be taking over responsibilities of lead teaching and will do so until my last week (following spring break), where I will gradually ease out by returning responsibilities to Mrs. Patelunas. I'm excited to work with your student this semester. Please do not hesitate to stop in, call or email me if you have time as I would welcome the opportunity to get to know you along with your student.

Sincerely,



Rachel Hallock