



HOLLY W. SAYRE
Superintendent of Schools

MEG DUFFY
Principal

March 21, 2022

Hello Carbondale Area Elementary community!

My name is Sansa, and I'm super excited about the great news I have for everyone. I will be starting in your school soon! I have been training with Susquehanna Service Dogs, based out of Grantville, Pa, all of my life.

You may be wondering why I will be working in the school. When a facility dog is involved, people, especially children, often respond more positively and enthusiastically. I can help students learn empathy, sharing and patience. In some instances, I can help calm a person simply by letting them pet me or by applying some light pressure to them. The staff at Carbondale Area Elementary School are awesome, but sometimes kids feel more at ease talking about upsetting situations when I am around. I can make difficult tasks seem more interesting and enjoyable when I am there to assist.



In the beginning, I will need some time to adjust to my new school. I will be spending a lot of time with Mrs. Pidgeon and Mrs. Vadella, but eventually I will be able to meet students in the guidance office and some classrooms. You may also see me in the hallways or the bus loop. I will be wearing a green vest to indicate I am a fully trained service dog. Although I love human interaction and attention, please, please ask my handler for permission before petting me and/or giving me commands, for this could confuse me. I will have several trained faculty members who will help me be successful in my placement here at CAES.

My handler will make sure I am regularly groomed to minimize residual hair and dander, and I will be treated regularly with an allergen reducing shampoo. In addition, there will be several "No Dog Zones" in the building, which will provide areas free of allergens.

If there are any questions or concerns, please reach out to Mrs. Pidgeon, Mrs. Vadella, or Ms. Duffy. I can't wait to meet everyone!

Sansa 🐾