"I am excited to return to Topeka Collegiate as part of the first grade team! Guided reading is essential to identifying and teaching specific skills that will increase each reader's fluency, comprehension, vocabulary, and writing skills. Observing the students' growth and understanding is a joy," Laura Schwerdt said. "I know without a doubt there will be no lack of learning or fun in first grade."

Ms. Schwerdt will also be working with sixth graders during their social studies research skills classes, helping them to prepare for History Day.

"I am looking forward to working with the sixth graders. During my time subbing for Dr. B, I discovered how much I enjoy the discussions that arise with this age group. It will be exciting

to support these students through the process of History Day, and I can't wait to see their projects develop from ideas and research to exhibits, documentaries, websites and more," Laura Schwerdt said.