My name is Brooke Ayres, and I am your ELA teacher for the 2024/2025 school year. In 2011, I graduated *magna cum laude* fromUMSL with a Bachelor of Arts in English. While a student at UMSL, I participated in VOICES for Equality and received my honors certificate from the Pierre-Laclede Honors College. I went back to UMSL in 2018 to pursue a secondary teaching certificate. This is my sixth year at Roosevelt. I am excited to meet all of you and I look forward to helping you explore and enjoy ELA. Literature is my passion, and I will work hard to ensure everyone grows in his, her, or their competency with reading, writing and literary analysis.

We all learn at different speeds and not all of us share the same strengths or interests. It is my job to provide an open environment where all my students feel confident in contributing and engaging in ELA. There will be a balance between collaborative and individual work; this approach ensures all students can participate according to their proficiencies. While not all of us like the spotlight, I want everyone to be seen and heard.

I hope to learn from you as much as you learn from me. Additionally, this classroom will be an inclusive and safe space. My pronouns are she and her. Thank you for giving me this opportunity to work with each of you.

**About Me**

I have two sons, Cole, 11 and Dexter, 9. Both of my boys have Autism, making ASD awareness extremely important to me.

**Contact Information:** Brooke.Ayres@slps.org

**Favorite Books:** *The Lord of the Rings*, *Dracula, The Scarlet Letter*, *The Watchmen*

**Favorite Bands:** TOOL, Rage Against the Machine, Alice in Chains, Nirvana, Weezer

**Favorite Movies:** *Goodfellas*, *Young Frankenstein*, *The Quiet Man, Robocop* (1987 version only!!)

**Favorite Food:** Italian, ice cream, my mom’s homemade stuffing

**Favorite Sports:** Football (RAVENS!!!) and hockey (Let’s go Blues!!!!)

**Favorite Color:** Green

**Hobbies:** Reading, cooking, traveling, and watching movies