



Dear Good Shepherd Parents,

At the beginning of each school year, I like to share with you our new faculty and administrators, as well as any movement within divisions. This year, we will be welcoming new faculty to Early Childhood, Lower School, Middle School, and to our staff. Due to COVID-19, we have created cohorts of students with a smaller class size than normal so that students may be socially distanced. This necessitated the hiring of several more faculty than we would traditionally have been doing. We also added five Associate Teacher positions in order to further support the students and faculty. Additionally, we have had to replace a few faculty members who resigned due to fears created by COVID-19.

Early Childhood:

Norma VanMarel – Ms. VanMarel will be joining us as a Prekindergarten teacher. She has a B.S. from Stephen F. Austin University and more than 25 years of teaching experience.

Lower School:

Mary Fritz – Ms. Fritz will be teaching 1st grade this year. She has B.A. from the University of Dallas and has 7 years of teaching experience.

Felice Stokes – Ms. Stokes is also joining our 1st grade team this year. She spent part of last year subbing for us in the classroom. Ms. Stokes has two B.A. degrees from Belmont Abbey College and has over 15 years of educational experience.

Danielle Miller – Ms. Miller is joining our 1st grade team. She has a B.A. from University of Connecticut and an M.Ed. from Sacred Heart University and has 8+ years of educational experience.

Amy Musselman – Mrs. Musselman is returning to Good Shepherd to join our 2nd grade team. She has a B.S. from University of Texas at Austin. Mrs. Musselman previously taught 1st and 2nd grade at Good Shepherd, leaving to spend time with her growing family. We welcome her back and look forward to having her with us again. She brings with her more than 20 years of educational experience.

Kimberly Rovegno – Ms. Rovegno is teaching 3rd grade this year. She has a B.A. from San Diego State University. She has 8 years of teaching experience.

Anna Covington – Ms. Covington is joining our 4th grade team. She has a Bachelor's and Master's from Austin College and has 7 years of teaching experience.

Middle School:

Lori Clapp – Ms. Clapp is joining our middle school to teach Mathematics. She has a B.S. from Texas A&M University and has 9 years of teaching experience.

Rachael Peterson – Ms. Peterson is joining our middle school Science team this year. She has a B.S. and M.Ed. from Mississippi College. She has 7 years of teaching experience.

Kristen Munoz – Mrs. Munoz, an alum of Good Shepherd (Class of '99), is taking on the role of High School Placement Counselor. She has a B.S. from University of Oklahoma. Mrs. Munoz has been tutoring some of our students for several years.

Anne Tamplin – Ms. Tamplin will be teaching Middle School Social Studies. She has a B.S. from Texas A&M University and has 7 years of teaching experience.

Kelly Cole – Ms. Cole is joining our middle school as an Associate Teacher. She has a B.A. from Loyola Marymount University.

Edward Mendez – Mr. Mendez will also be joining our middle school as an Associate Teacher. He has a B.S. from D'Youville College and an M.Ed. from University of Hawaii at Manoa and has 31 years of teaching experience.

Other Faculty Positions:

Dashielle Vawter – Ms. Vawter has joined Good Shepherd as our new Director of COE. She has a B.A. from University of California-Berkley and brings a wealth of knowledge in a variety of areas that will enrich our already wonderful Classroom of the Earth program.

Brooke Roney – Ms. Roney is joining our PE Department this year. She has a B.A. from University of Richmond and an M.Ed. from University of Virginia. She has over 10 years of experience coaching sports at a variety of age levels.

Administration and Staff:

James Niederhauser – Mr. Niederhauser has joined us as our Student Information Systems Administrator. He received his B.S. from New Jersey Institute of Technology.

Movement of Current Faculty and Administrators:

JoAnn Cisneros - Mrs. Cisneros is moving from a PreK Associate Teacher to a PreK teacher.

Melissa Gault – Mrs. Gault is moving from 1st grade to join the Kindergarten team.

Mary Torres - Ms. Torres has moved from Director of Curriculum to Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. She will also be assisting our new Director of Curriculum this year.

Taylor Jennings – Ms. Jennings has become our Math Instructional Specialist.

Catherine Scott – Mrs. Scott has moved from the MS Science classroom to Director of Curriculum and COE Liaison. With her wealth of experience with COE, she will also be assisting Dashielle Vawter as Dashielle transitions into her role as Director of COE.

Sarah Hammontree – Ms. Hammontree moved from her position as a Permanent Substitute to join our Lower School as an Associate Teacher.

Shantell Faithful – Ms. Faithful has been working in Extended Day this past year and has now joined Lower School as an Associate Teacher.

Abigail Clements – Ms. Clements has been working in Extended Day and has now joined Early Childhood as an Associate Teacher.

We are very excited about the energy and expertise that our new hires will bring to our school and to the students! We also look forward to the new perspectives our current faculty will bring to their new roles and grade levels! We can't wait to see everyone on campus!

Best,
Julie McLeod, Ph.D.
Head of School