



## **Sarah Jensen named new Elmhurst School District 205 REACH Parent Group Chairperson**

REACH Parent Group welcomes Sarah Jensen as the 2021 - 2022 Chairperson for The REACH Parent Group. The Chair is a conduit of information between parents and Elmhurst District 205 administration and provides opportunities for parents to have direct contact with the administration, and to learn and ask questions about program specifics. The REACH Chair participates in PTA Council meetings and keeps school representatives up to date on all relevant information affecting their schools.

Sarah has been the Field Elementary School REACH Representative / Co-Representative for four years and has three children, twins in sixth grade, one of which has been in both REACH ELA and Math since third grade and one who has been in general education, and a third-grader currently in REACH Math. Sarah has been an active volunteer at Field Elementary School, has held several PTA Board positions, and has chaired numerous initiatives. Sarah is passionate about ALL District 205 students, the REACH program, and the REACH Parent Group. She wants to ensure that productive dialogue continues between all community stakeholders.

Sarah comes with an outstanding recommendation on behalf of the Field Elementary REACH teacher, Leanne Rider: "As the Reach teacher at Field School, I have worked with Sarah, a Field School parent, PTA Board Member and Reach Parent Group Rep, for the past four years. In all of our interactions, I have been impressed with Sarah's ability to prioritize all students' academic needs, work collaboratively with teachers and administrators, and communicate ideas in a clear and cohesive manner."

Sarah is a strong advocate for all student needs: those included in the REACH program as well as those who are not. Focused on curriculum, experiences, and outcomes, Sarah supports any resource, tool, or strategy that will further student learning at every ability level.

Sarah is able to work collaboratively with teachers, administrators, parents, and the community. The role of Chair for the Reach Parent Group requires its leader to

listen to a variety of voices, stakeholders, and members, with a vast array of priorities, emotions, and suggestions, all while remaining stoic, rational, and focused on facts. Sarah is admired by her peers for her composure, communication skills, grit, and leadership qualities.

Sarah shows strong leadership and a steady demeanor and she has the knowledge to lead the program academically, the communications skills to involve all parties in conversations pertaining to the direction of the program, and the ability to foster strong school/home relationships among families.

Sarah is a teacher at Elmhurst Montessori Preschool and when she is not volunteering for her kids' schools, sports teams, or the REACH Parent Group, she enjoys running, gardening and cooking!

#### About REACH Parent Group

The REACH Parent Group is organized and funded by the D205 PTA Council. We are a parent group dedicated to supporting gifted and talented programs in District 205 and encouraging higher-level educational opportunities for ALL District 205 students.

For more information, please check out the [REACH Parent Group website](#), Facebook Groups ([Elementary Schools](#) and [Middle Schools](#)), [Instagram Page](#), or send an email at [ChairpersonREACHParentGroup@gmail.com](mailto:ChairpersonREACHParentGroup@gmail.com).