

# NEW FACULTY DIRECTORY

2021-2022



**INSPIRE. EMPOWER. NURTURE.**  
Enter with promise. Leave with purpose.



## Caleb Aldridge

CLS - Special Education

**Hometown:** Crystal lake, IL

**Extracurricular Duties:** Assistant baseball coach

**College(s) & Degree(s):** UW - Whitewater, Bachelor's in Education

**Why Did You Want to be a Teacher:** "I love having the opportunity to work in a team atmosphere and building relationships, as well as assisting in people reaching their goals."

**Hometown:** Fox River Grove, IL

**College(s) & Degree(s):** UW - Whitewater, Bachelor's in Education

**Hobbies/Interests:** Spending time with family & friends, exercising, cooking, shopping

**Five Words Friends Would Use to Describe You:** Funny, clean, caring, respectful, responsible

**Why Did You Want to be a Teacher:** "I have always had a passion for helping people of all age levels and abilities reach their goals."



## Molly Bo-Hansen

CG - Special Education



## Monika Christiansen BSN, RN

CLS - Nurse

**Hometown:** Crystal Lake, IL

**College(s) & Degree(s):** Lewis University, Bachelor's in Nursing

**Hobbies/Interests:** Camping, hiking, fishing, biking, snowboarding, reading

**Five Words Friends Would Use to Describe You:** Resourceful, funny, easy-going, compassionate, loyal

**Why Did You Want to be a Nurse:** "I have always loved helping others, I chose to become a nurse to be able to care for patients of all ages. The flexibility of this career has allowed me to gain experience in many settings including ICU and Hospice. I'm so excited to join the CLS family!"



## Deidre Dobbels

CLS/PR - AAC Specialist & Speech Language Pathologist

**Hometown:** Crystal Lake, IL

**College(s) & Degree(s):** Augustana College, Bachelors degree; Eastern Illinois University, Masters degree

**Hobbies/Interests:** Travel, reading, planning events, soccer-moming, cooking, hanging with our dog

**Five Words Friends Would Use to Describe You:** Creative, thoughtful, loyal, quirky, genuine

**Why Did You Want to be a Speech Pathologist:** "I come from a large family of educators. Teachers are definitely my people (and if you ask me - they are the best kind of people!) Being a school based Speech Language Pathologist allows me to partner with students, families, and other educators to help develop or improve someone's ability to communicate. The joy in this process is indescribable! "

**Hometown:** Wheaton, IL

**Extracurricular Duties:** Marching band, Jazz band, pep band, small ensembles, musical pit ensemble

**College(s) & Degree(s):** Northern Illinois University, Bachelor's in Music; University of Illinois, Master's of Music Education

**Hobbies/Interests:** Carpentry/home projects, camping, swimming, family time

**Five Words Friends Would Use to Describe You:** Goofy, driven, thoughtful, busy, dependable

**Why Did You Want to be a Teacher:** "To follow the model of my HS band director of giving a place for students to belong, connect to something more meaningful, to be noticed for what I could do, and to keep exploring my passion for instrumental music."



## Dan Foster

CLS - Band



## Abby Hare

PR - Special Education

**Hometown:** Crystal Lake, IL

**College(s) & Degree(s):** Webster University, BFA in Dance; Liberty University, Master's in Teaching/Special Education

**Hobbies/Interests:** Spending time with family, walking my dog, and teaching dance

**Five Words Friends Would Use to Describe You:** Passionate, creative, artistic, kind, loyal

**Why Did You Want to be a Teacher:** "I want to make a difference in student's lives by giving them the support they need in order to be successful."



## Alexa Kritikos

CLC - Math

**Hometown:** Arlington Heights, IL

**Extracurricular Duties:** Cheerleading coach

**College(s) & Degree(s):** Elmhurst College, Bachelor's in Mathematics & Business Administration

**Hobbies/Interests:** I love working out, traveling, tumbling, and cheerleading

**Five Words Friends Would Use to Describe You:** Passionate, energetic, loyal, respectful, genuine

**Why Did You Want to be a Teacher:** "I think high school students are right at the climax of their life journey. They are discovering who they are as people and what their love and interests are. Being a positive influence during this time is so important and rewarding. I love being apart of their journey and watching them grow into someone they always wanted to be. I became a teacher to give them a safe, inviting space to make these decisions and feel prepared to take on the world!"

**Hometown:** Des Plaines, IL

**College(s) & Degree(s):** Northern Illinois University, Bachelor's in Special Education

**Hobbies/Interests:** Hanging with my family & friends, reading, cooking, and baking

**Why Did You Want to be a Teacher:** "I like making a difference in kids' lives."



## Laney Lavin

PR - Special Education - STRIVE



## Sara Markelonis

CLS - Special Education

**Hometown:** Cary, IL

**Extracurricular Duties:** Coaching, ticket sales for football, wrestling & basketball (boys & girls), scoring for volleyball and CG buddies games

**College(s) & Degree(s):** UW-Parkside, Bachelor's in Sports Management; Northern Illinois University, Master's in Education with LBS1

**Hobbies/Interests:** Hunting, fishing, sports, coaching, going to the gym, being outside, being with family and friends, traveling

**Five Words Friends Would Use to Describe You:** Funny, athletic, competitive, encouraging, passionate

**Why Did You Want to be a Teacher:** "I want to help others, inspire others, encourage others, and help everyone I can grow and become more independent as well as gain self confidence and a positive mindset."



## Sarah Mattioli

CLS - Science

**Hometown:** Schaumburg, IL

**Extracurricular Duties:** Volleyball coach

**College(s) & Degree(s):** Hope College, Bachelor's degree

**Hobbies/Interests:** I love dogs and crafting, and I used to love hiking

**Five Words Friends Would Use to Describe You:** Upbeat, patient, nerdy, positive, kind

**Why Did You Want to be a Teacher:** "To have a positive impact and help students find joy in learning science!"

**Hometown:** Wauconda, IL

**College(s) & Degree(s):** McHenry County College, Associate's in Art; Illinois State University, Bachelor's in Science-Business Teacher Education

**Hobbies/Interests:** I love to sing and paint. During my free time in the summer I like to be at Bangs Lake either swimming, fishing, or kayaking

**Five Words Friends Would Use to Describe You:** Empathetic, driven, passionate, kind, warm-hearted

**Why Did You Want to be a Teacher:** "I found myself lost as a senior in high school not knowing what I wanted to do now. I decided to ask my teacher, Theresa Miller, if I could be a teacher's assistant and not take a lunch period in order to help a fellow student. At one point Theresa, who is now one of my biggest mentors, let me know that she was going to be absent for 3 days and I had said 'Do you want me to teach the lessons?' Sure enough with the substitute nearby, I was able to teach all 3 days. From then on, I knew I was meant to be a teacher."



## Amy Saldivar-Castaneda

CLS - Business



## Matt Sutherland

CG - Math

**Hometown:** Cary, IL

**Extracurricular Duties:** Football and baseball coach

**College(s) & Degree(s):** North Central College, Bachelor's in Secondary Education Mathematics

**Hobbies/Interests:** I enjoy being active, being outdoors, being around sports whether it is playing, coaching, or watching, and spending quality time with family and friends.

**Five Words Friends Would Use to Describe You:** Passionate, genuine, hard-working, caring, dedicated

**Why Did You Want to be a Teacher:** "I want to be a teacher to have a positive impact on today's high school students, creating a great experience for them so they can be ready to make the world a better place."