

## **NEW GSA STAFF**

### **September 2022**

**Matt Donovan** joins GSA as a math teacher. He is a graduate of Mt. Ararat High School and has a BA in Math (with Physics minor) from the University of Maine at Orono. He has worked as a music teacher (guitar and bass) at Burns Studio in Orono and as a counselor and math teacher at Upward Bound. He is also an avid runner and will be assisting with our cross-country and track programs.

**Brock Muir** joins GSA as the Director of Finance and Operations. He has an MBA from the Grossman School of Business at UVM. He has worked in a range of executive positions and has recently moved with his family to Castine. He has two children, including his son who is a senior at GSA.

**Maria Razi** joins GSA as a French teacher. She grew up the child of American diplomats in several francophone African countries, whereby she is a fluent French speaker. She has a M.A.T. from Georgetown University and has taught at the collegiate, elementary and high school levels. She has a family home in Brooksville, and while living there taught French at the Bay School for three autumns in 2014-2016. She has been living in California, but is returning to the Peninsula after her husband's passing.

**Nate Cole**, GSA '13, returns to GSA now as the Information Technology and Special Projects Manager. He is a graduate of the University of Maine with a BA in Economics. Nate has coached boys' JV soccer and boys' freshman basketball at the academy for the last three years. He recently worked as the IT coordinator and computer literacy teacher at Brooksville and Surry elementary schools. Nate lives on Toddy Pond with his one succulent house plant that he's miraculously kept alive for the last four years.

**Billie L'Heureux** joins GSA as the Athletic Director. She is a graduate of South Portland High School and attended St. Joseph's College where she earned a BA in Sociology and Master's of Science in Education. She also attended UNE and earned a Certificate of Advanced Graduate Study in Educational Leadership. Billie comes to GSA after working 27 years at Fryeburg Academy teaching wellness and coaching a variety of different athletic teams.

**Alexandra Wessel** is moving to a new position at GSA as Admissions Associate, working with both local and boarding admissions. Lexi is a 2009 GSA graduate and attended Keene State College with a Bachelor's in Journalism. She worked as an Ed Tech at BHCS and GSA; for the last two years she has been an English teacher at GSA and the 504 Coordinator. Lexi will continue to advise her 11<sup>th</sup> grade advisory.

**Jill Kofton** joined GSA in the spring as an Ed Tech. Jo lives in Deer Isle and has worked previously as a K-8 art teacher in Deer Isle, Lamoine and Otis. She grew up in Deer Isle but ranged as far as California to earn her MA at John F. Kennedy University.

**Tracy Knights** joins GSA as an Ed Tech and Dorm Support. Most recently Tracy has lived in Rumford where she worked as an Ed Tech. Previously, she lived in California and worked for 15 years as a private piano and voice teacher. Tracy's son Edmund will be a 9<sup>th</sup> grader at GSA and she also has three daughters who will be attending BHCS.

**Craig Gilbert** joins GSA as an Ed Tech. He has worked most recently as an Ed Tech in Oregon after also working as an assistant manager of a pub and then as a massage therapist. He and his wife have moved onto her family's historic farm in Blue Hill. They have twins who will attend BHCS.

**Lila Gilbert** joins GSA as the 504 Coordinator and an Ed Tech. Lila has an MS in Counseling and has worked as an elementary school counselor in Oregon and California. She and her husband have moved onto her family's historic farm in Blue Hill. They have twins who will attend BHCS.

**Dale Nevells** joins GSA as a member of the custodial staff. He is graduate of Ellsworth High School and moves to GSA after working at Tradewinds for thirteen years. Dale lives in East Blue Hill with his wife and two daughters, who are both students at BHCS.

**Mark Hundhammer** joins GSA as the Boys Varsity Soccer Coach. Mark grew up in California and attended California State University earning a BA in Geography. Mark also holds a MS in Natural Resources from University of Wisconsin. He is currently an instructor at Husson University and store manager at Cadillac Mountain Sports.

**Lexie Prescott** joins GSA as the Varsity Volleyball Coach. She graduated from Washington Academy and played volleyball for two years at University of Maine Machias. She currently works at the Thirsty Moose Cafe in Machias.

**Jessica Smith** returns to the GSA custodial staff after having worked here from 1998-2006. Jessica spent every vacation growing up at her great-grandmother's (Rena Williamson, GSA '29) house in East Blue Hill where she now lives with her husband Ted. She lives for the ocean. She has three nieces and one nephew; one of her nieces is a current GSA student.

**Tom Sawyer** returns to GSA as an Ed Tech. He was an Ed Tech at GSA from 2015-2020 and before that was the Registrar at Maine Maritime Academy. Tom lives with his family in Blue Hill.