Gilbert Barraza, Principal

Rebecca Polidano TOSA~Student Achievement Teacher

Dina De La O, UPK Leadership Team, NPDL & C-STEM

**Joy Palacio** 1<sup>st</sup> G Leadership Team

Elizabeth Girvan, NPDL, C-STEM 2<sup>nd</sup> G Leadership Team

Shannon White 3<sup>rd</sup> G Leadership Team, NPDL, C-STEM

Joanna Palatto, 4<sup>th</sup> G Leadership Team

Lana Willis, 5<sup>th</sup> G Leadership Team, NPDL & SSC Chair

Tiffany Kugelman, EL K-5 Facilitator & Leadership Team

Kim Baez, Leadership Team & 6<sup>th</sup> G EL Facilitator

**Monica McEvoy,** School Office Manager

**Dennis Hisamoto** School Psychologist

Genesis Stoll, School Counselor

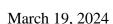
Sara Cendejas, Speech Therapist

Analouise Gomez, Cafeteria Manager

Elizabeth Girvan, 2023 Teacher of the Year NPDL & C-STEM Hacienda La Punete Unified School District

## **Sparks Elementary School**

A Learning Community Dedicated to Student Achievement



Congratulations to Ms. Makenzie Di Pietro, our 2023-2024 Teacher of the Year!



Teacher of the Year 2024

She is a proud graduate of Carnelian Elementary, Alta Loma Jr. High, and Alta Loma High School in Alta Loma, CA, Ms. Di Pietro has an impressive educational background. She holds both a Bachelor of Arts and a Master of Arts in Education from the University of La Verne, along with a multiple subject teaching credential and a Master's in Education.

Most recently, Ms. Di Pietro shared her enthusiasm for teaching: "I have a new favorite moment in teaching every day. I'm learning as the kids learn. Every day we do something better than the day before. It's so fun to watch the littlest learners (TK) grow tremendous amounts each day and I feel lucky to have landed at Sparks ES which has a positive culture that makes working fun. I have learned so much working with my UPK Team.

Her colleagues at Sparks Elementary hold her in high regard, and the Spark's community of students, teachers, and parents absolutely love her! As she continues to inspire young minds, let's remember the wise words of Fred Rogers: "There are three ways to ultimate success: The first way is to be kind. The second way is to be kind. The third way is to be kind."

Eagles For Life...Go Sparks Eagles!

Principal G. Barraza