

# WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST FACULTY!

2023-2024



## **ALICIA BISHOP, INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL, LEARNING SUPPORT**

- Alicia Bishop is entering her 5th year teaching. She has a passion for the field of Special Education and obtained her Bachelor's Degree with a dual certification in Elementary and Special Education from Misericordia University and her Master's Degree from King's College in Special Education with an Autism Endorsement.
- Her job experiences have allowed her to work with and educate a population of extremely talented individuals with a variety of learning styles, communication devices and medical needs. She strives to be an advocate for her students and foster student success in the classroom.
- Prior to working for the Dallas School District she taught at Warrior Run School District in the MS and HS Autistic Support classrooms.
- A few fun facts about her are that she loves chickens, baking and camping with my family.



## **ALICIA KAISER, MIDDLE SCHOOL, WELLNESS**



- Alicia Kaiser is very excited to bring her passion for teaching wellness to the students in the Dallas School District. Alicia is a graduate of Dallas High School where she played sports and loved being physically active. After high school Alicia went on to earn her B.S in Public Health from Temple University, M.S in Health Education from East Stroudsburg University and M.Ed. in Health and Physical Education from Indiana University of Pennsylvania.
- Over the past six years, Alicia has taught in a wide variety of classroom settings and subjects including nutrition, health and physical education and general education for students in PreK-12th grade.
- Alicia began her career as an educator at The Berkeley Carroll School in Brooklyn, NY before moving to Philadelphia to teach nutrition in the School District of Philadelphia. Alicia relocated back to Dallas where she taught health and physical education at Susquehanna Prep and in the Greater Nanticoke Area School District. Alicia currently resides in Dallas with her Fiancé, Joe, and their son, Mason..

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## **CHRISTINE KATSOCK, MIDDLE SCHOOL, LEARNING SUPPORT**

- Christine Katsock is very excited to begin teaching in the Dallas School District. Christine is a graduate of Marywood University, earning both a Bachelors and Masters Degree. Christine most recently graduated from Susquehanna University with a Masters of Education Degree.
- Christine is presently a doctoral student at the University of Toledo in the Curriculum and Instruction PhD program concentrating in Special Education.
- Christine has spent the last five years teaching in the Hazleton Area School District. She also serves as choir director and an organist for the linked parishes of Corpus Christi and St. Barbara, Exeter, West Pittston, and Harding. Christine presently resides in Dallas.



## **SARA KNEAL, WYCALLIS, GUIDANCE COUNSELOR**



- Sara Kneal is extremely excited to start her new role as the Guidance Counselor at Wycallis Primary Center!
- Sara is a Dallas graduate and continued her educational career at West Chester University of Pennsylvania, where she earned her Bachelor's degree in Sociology and Master's degree in School Counseling. Sara has experience with all ages!
- She has worked with students at New Story in Wyoming, Tunkhannock Area Primary Center, Greater Nanticoke Area High School, and has coached soccer and basketball at Dallas for many years.
- Sara resides in the Back Mountain with her family Richie, son Hudson, and Shiba-Inu Dachshund mix, Willow.

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## MEGAN OSTRUM, INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL, LEARNING SUPPORT

- Megan Ostrum, a Dallas graduate, is excited to be back in her hometown. Postsecondary, Megan attended Misericordia University earning a Bachelor's degree in Early Childhood and Special Education.
- Following her collegiate experience, Megan became a part of Teach for America and served the students of Schaumburg Elementary in New Orleans, Louisiana for 2 years. Throughout the duration of her time in New Orleans, Megan earned her Master's Degree in Elementary Education from Relay Graduate School of Education.
- Additionally, Megan gained valuable experience at Coronado Beach Elementary in New Smyrna, Florida where she taught K-5th grade Support Facilitation. Megan hopes to bring her experiences and positivity to the team!



## BRITTANY YANKOVICH, SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGIST



- Brittany Yankovich is a dedicated and passionate school psychologist excited to join the Dallas School District. Brittany possesses a drive to positively impact student lives and a genuine care for each student's well-being and academic success.
- Brittany completed her Master's Degree in School Psychology from Eastern University. She has gained valuable experience working in an Emotional Support classroom at Wyoming Area school district and her practicum and internship experiences in the Dallas School District. She is dedicated to conducting comprehensive assessments, developing individualized intervention plans, and collaborating with teachers to implement evidence-based strategies. Brittany believes in the power of early intervention and will work to identify and address social-emotional and academic challenges that may hinder students' progress.
- Brittany resides in West Pittston with her husband, James, and their three children, Adison, Brenna, and Ellia.

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## **PATRICIA ASH, WYCALLIS - READING SPECIALIST**

- The district would like to welcome back Patricia Ash this year. A former long-term substitute at the Wycallis Primary Center during the 22-23 year, she will be returning as Reading Specialist this year as a permanent hire.
- Patricia earned her Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education from King's College and her Master's Degree in Education with a Specialization in Reading from Misericordia University.
- Patricia is returning to elementary education after working as an adult educator and organizational development specialist in the role of designing and facilitating online and face-to-face programs. She has taught as a substitute teacher and reading specialist and is also a private reading tutor for students in kindergarten through 12th grade.
- Patricia has served in leadership as well as mentorship roles in community and school organizations including the Boy Scouts of America, the Lake-Lehman Lock-in Committee, and various Lake-Lehman sport booster clubs.
- Mrs. Ash resides in Sweet Valley with her husband, John, and their three children, Michelle, Christopher, and Matthew.



## **HANNAH BONOMO, HIGH SCHOOL - BCIT**



- The district would like to welcome back Hannah Bonomo this year. Hannah taught here as a long-term substitute at the High School and she will be returning as our permanent BCIT teacher as of the 2023-2024 school year.
- Hannah is very excited to be teaching in the district again. She is a graduate of Lake Lehman High School and earned her Bachelor's Degree in History and her Master's in Curriculum and Instruction from Bloomsburg University.
- Hannah has gained valuable experience teaching in the BCIT department at Dallas High School over the past two years; and gained even more experience by taking coaching roles in the district over the past year.
- Hannah resides in Hunlock Creek with her husband, Aaron, and their two German Shorthaired Pointers.

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## MEGAN MALKEMES, INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL - LEARNING SUPPORT

- The district would like to welcome back Megan Malkemes this year. A former long-term substitute at the Intermediate School during the 22-23 year, she will be returning to Learning Support this year as a permanent hire.
- Megan is a graduate of Lake-Lehman High School where she was part of the National Honor Society. She earned her Associate Degree in Social Sciences at Luzerne County Community College and later attended Misericordia University where she graduated Cum Laude earning her Bachelor's degree in both Early Childhood Education and Special Education.
- Megan has gained valuable experience teaching in local school districts by fulfilling multiple long-term substitute positions in the Elementary and Special Education settings. Megan has worked with a diverse student population where she continues to extend her professional growth.
- Megan resides in Shavertown with her fiancé Corey, their son Connor, their daughter Mylah, and dog Pluto.



## DANIA-LEE VIRGO, WYCALLIS - LTS KINDERGARTEN



- Dania Virgo is very excited to be joining the Dallas School District as a long term substitute teacher for our Kindergarten students. Dania earned her Bachelor's Degree from The College of New Jersey, where she studied Early Childhood Education and Sociology.
- She will begin the Reading Specialist Master's program at Misericordia University in the spring. Dania is experienced in teaching preschool, kindergarten, 1st grade and English as a Second Language. Dania is passionate about educating young children and nurturing their social and emotional development. She believes in the whole-child approach to learning and she encourages her students to be immersed in a learning environment that fosters their overall well-being.
- Dania resides in Meshoppen, P.A. She enjoys volunteering with the children's group at her local church, hiking, reading, writing and cooking.

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