

WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST FACULTY!

2024-2025



TANIA BARR , INTERMEDIATE, 4TH GRADE

- Tania Barr is very excited to be joining the Dallas Mountaineers community. Tania earned her Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education at SUNY Oneonta and Master's degree in Literacy Education at Binghamton University. She has over 20 years of experience teaching for the Binghamton City School District in New York. She is excited to bring her experience, expertise, and enthusiasm for learning to the Dallas School District.
- Mrs. Barr lives in Trucksville with her husband James; her stepsons, Jack and Theo; and their cats, Sherman, Poppy, and Peanut.



KATHLEEN STAFFARONI, DMS/DHS, WELLNESS



- Kathleen Staffaroni is a NEPA native who has obtained a Bachelor's degree in Kinesiology, health and physical education (2009), a Master's degree in Health Education (2016) and several related certifications including Certified Wellness Practitioner, Group Fitness Instructor, and Mental Health First Aid.
- Kathleen has 12 years of teaching experience in PA, SC, CO and NC, and also served as Director of Student Affairs at Campbell University. Additionally, Kathleen serves in the Air National Guard branch of the United States Air Force as a Healthcare Administration Specialist.
- Kathleen enjoys watching the Eagles, Phillies and Syracuse basketball, as well as running long distance, Crossfit, and playing sports with her husband, two boys and puppy.

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KRISTY ROLLINS, INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL, 4TH GRADE

- Kristy Rollins is extremely excited to be teaching in the Dallas School District. Kristy graduated from Dallas High School and earned her teaching degree from Bloomsburg University.
- She has been teaching as a substitute in the Dallas School District for the past 12 plus years.
- Mrs. Rollins resides in Dallas with her husband of 16 years, Jamiel, and their two children, Jacie, 12 years old, and Jordan, 9 years old.



DANIA-LEE VIRGO, WYCALLIS, KINDERGARTEN



- Dania Virgo is very excited to be joining the Dallas School District. Dania earned her Bachelor's degree from The College of New Jersey, where she studied Early Childhood Education and Sociology.
- Dania is experienced in teaching preschool, kindergarten and 1st grade. Dania is passionate about educating young children and nurturing their social and emotional development.
- Dania resides in Meshoppen, P.A. She enjoys volunteering with the children's group at her local church, hiking, reading, writing and painting.

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AMANDA PEREZ, MIDDLE SCHOOL, WRITING

- Amanda Perez is eager to be back in her home state and teaching in the Dallas School District. Amanda is a graduate of James M. Coughlin High School where she was involved in several clubs, as well as a dancer for the local Joan Harris Centre. Amanda earned her Bachelor's degree in Elementary and Special Education from King's College where she served as a president and secretary of education clubs and graduated with Summa Cum Laude.
- Amanda has gained valuable experience CCD and student teaching in Hanover Area and student teaching in Wilkes-Barre Area before moving to Northern California. In the Bay Area, she taught in elementary and middle school levels for both elementary and special education. She was also nominated as Educator of the Year for the California League of Middle Schools in 2020.
- Mrs. Perez resides in West Pittston with her husband and family.



MARINA AULISIO, WYCALLIS, LEARNING SUPPORT



- Marina Aulisio is delighted to be teaching in the Dallas School District. Marina is an alumni of Dallas and enjoyed playing tennis in high school. She graduated from Wilkes University with a Bachelor's degree in Elementary and Special Education. Marina has also earned a Master's degree in Literacy from Sacred Heart University. She has gained valuable experience teaching in the Griswold School District in Connecticut for the last few years.
- Recently, Marina and her husband, Dominick, decided to plant their roots back home in NEPA with their cat, Cali, and dog, Elliot.

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JACQUALINE LOWE-PAUPST, MIDDLE SCHOOL, LEARNING SUPPORT

- Jackie Lowe-Paupst is thrilled to be joining the Dallas School District. Jackie is a graduate of Dallas Senior High School. She earned her Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education from Bloomsburg University and went on to obtain her Special Education certification from King's College.
- Ms. Lowe-Paupst is currently completing her Master's degree in Literacy with a PDE Reading Specialist Certification as well. Jackie has gained valuable experience teaching for the Luzerne Intermediate Unit 18 for the last ten years.
- Mrs. Paupst resides in Shavertown with her husband, Dave, their two children, Brendan and Cameron, and dog, Teddy.



TESS MULHERN, WYCALLIS, 1ST GRADE



- Tess Mulhern is a Dallas graduate and is very excited to be teaching first grade at Wycallis Primary Center in the Dallas School District. Tess earned her Bachelor's degree in communicative sciences and disorders with a minor in psychology along with her teaching certification. At this time, she is well into her pursuit of her Master's degree in reading and literacy from West Chester University.
- Tess has gained experience in education working with autistic support students in Downingtown Area School District and teaching first grade for three years in West Chester Area School District where she was a district STEM and social emotional learning representative.
- Mrs. Tess Mulhern recently moved from West Chester back to Dallas where she now resides with her husband, Dan, stepson, Danny, and sons Levi and Teddy

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MORGAN PARK, WYCALLIS, 2ND GRADE

- Morgan Park is thrilled to be joining the Dallas School District for the 2024-2025 school year! Morgan was born and raised in the Dallas area, and has two children currently enrolled in the district. She has earned several degrees including a Bachelor's degree in Communications, a Master's degree in Early Childhood Education with a Reading Specialist Endorsement, and another Master's degree in Educational Leadership with an Administrative Certification.
- Morgan is a life-long learner who will continue to seek out knowledge for herself and for the benefit of her students. Morgan has sixteen years of classroom experience at the elementary level in both Pennsylvania and Oregon
- Ms. Park is an avid hiker who loves camping and being outdoors, especially around a campfire with her family. Morgan is incredibly excited to begin her journey with the Dallas School District and looks forward to an incredibly successful year.



TAYLOR DAVIES, WYCALLIS- LTS ART



- Taylor Davies is very excited to be back in her home district again. Taylor is a graduate of the Dallas School District. She went on to Penn State University where she got her Bachelor's of Science in Kinesiology and MBA from Misericordia University. She then went on and got her Master's of Arts in Elementary Education after finding her true passion, teaching, while subbing at the Dallas School District during COVID.
- Taylor was the building substitute at Wycallis for a few years before she got the opportunity to teach first grade at Tunkhannock Area School District.
- She spent many years coaching swimming and diving at both the collegiate and club level. Taylor is currently a DMAC coach and runs Mountaineer Diving Club. She lives in Dallas with her fiancé and two dogs, Dobby and Wadel

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BRENNA DAUGHERTY-BELL, INTERMEDIATE, LTS 3RD GRADE

- Brenna Daugherty-Bell is so excited to begin her teaching career in the Dallas School District. Brenna received her Bachelor's degree in Neuroscience from the College of William & Mary and her Master's degree in Teaching, Learning and Curriculum (PreK-4) from Drexel University.
- Brenna has had the opportunity to positively impact students by teaching first and second grade in Illinois. She has also taught in several other capacities, including as a group fitness instructor (cycling and barre, primarily), a gymnastics coach, and a medical Spanish instructor.
- Brenna recently moved to Dallas with her husband, Derrik, where they are excited to hike, play tennis, and make connections in the community.



ELISABETH MEAD, MIDDLE SCHOOL, LTS WRITING



- Elisabeth Mead is extremely excited to be joining the Dallas School District as a long-term substitute for Amanda Perez. Elisabeth is a graduate from Dallas Senior High School. She earned her Bachelor's degree in Middle Level Education with a concentration in math from Penn State University.
- Elisabeth is thrilled to be given this opportunity and is excited to see what the future holds!
- She enjoys going to church, spending time with her family, hiking, and working out at the gym.

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JAROD BLOCKUS, TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT SPECIALIST

- Jarod Blockus is excited to return to the Dallas School District once again. He is a former Dallas High School student, graduating with the Class of 2017. Jarod earned his Bachelor's degree in Information Science and Technology at Penn State University Wilkes-Barre.
- During his college studies, Jarod worked part-time for Dallas School District as a technology aide, helping with day-to-day IT tasks and troubleshooting. The past few years Jarod has worked as an Information Technology Specialist for the Weatherly Area School District.
- Mr. Blockus is a long-time Dallas resident and has a passion for music and computers.



ORELL GAYNOR, DIRECTOR OF TECHNOLOGY



- Orell Gaynor III is a Jim Thorpe Area graduate. He obtained his Bachelor's degree in Information Systems from Susquehanna University and his Master's of Education in Instructional Technology from Kutztown University.
- He recently served as the Director of Technology & Information Services at the Jim Thorpe Area School District after previously being employed there for 15 years as a Technology Specialist.
- He married Megan Kuffa in November of 2022. Orell and Megan reside in West Pittston with their dogs Mickey and Minnie, and cats Zelda and Scottie. Orell looks forward to joining the Dallas School District and serving as its new Director of Technology.

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JESSICA KETTELL, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT TO THE DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL EDUCATION

- Jessica Kettell is excited to be the Special Education Administrative Assistant. Jessica is a graduate of Tunkhannock Area High School and she earned a Bachelor of Science from Keystone College majoring in Education.
- Ms. Kettell most recently had been working as an Assistant Registrar at Clarks Summit University. Jessica looks forward to bringing her organizational skills and strong attention to detail to her new position.
- Jessica resides in Falls with her husband, Allan, and their two cats Buddy and Oreo.



DOREEN MARIANACCI, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT TO THE DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS



- Doreen Marianacci is pleased to accept the position as the new Administrative Assistant to the Director of Operations and Administration. She is a graduate of Wyoming Area High School and attended King's College. She is a seasoned Administrative Assistant and has extensive experience in office management skills and acting as a liaison between departments and Administrators. Having held positions in the private and public sector has tailored her skills to meet the needs of various professional employees. She has increased efficiency in many of her assigned tasks and is skilled in adapting to various operational systems.
- Doreen is an active member of St. Monica's Parish and Wyoming Hose Company Number One. She and her husband, John, reside in Wyoming and have a daughter, Maria, in healthcare and a son, John Joseph, in the educational field. Doreen is compassionate towards animals and adopted a cat named Buddy.

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