

Tenure Recognition

May 19, 2026



Brianna Brough

Special Education

Abbey Lane Elementary School

Quote: *“Every child has a voice—some just need us to listen differently, teach patiently, and believe fiercely until their way of communicating is heard.”*



Kristin Giglietta

Elementary Teacher

Abbey Lane Elementary School

Quote: *“I believe every child deserves a supportive, respectful classroom where they feel valued and empowered to learn. I strive to build a positive classroom community that encourages growth, curiosity, and confidence.”*



Kelly McAuley

Elementary Teacher

Abbey Lane Elementary School

Quote: “A key component of effective teaching is building nurturing relationships with students to create a safe and supportive environment where students feel cared for and respected”



Taylor Milanese

School Psychologist

Abbey Lane Elementary School

Quote: *“I strive to create a supportive environment where students feel safe, understood and empowered to reach their potential.”*



Reginald Carolina

Teaching Assistant

Division Avenue High School

Quote: *“A mind is a terrible thing to waste!”*



Nicole DeCicco

Math Teacher

Division Avenue High School

Quote: *"Teaching starts with connection. When students feel comfortable, valued, and seen as more than just learners, they're more willing to take risks and grow. I strive to create a classroom where mistakes are part of learning, collaboration is encouraged, and students feel empowered to take ownership of their success—in math and beyond."*



Daniel Fazio

Assistant Principal

Division Avenue High School

Quote: *"People don't care how much you know until they know how much you care."*

-Theodore Roosevelt



Clifford Heller

ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages)

Division Avenue High School

Quote: *“When the will to learn is satiated, the resolve to grow becomes extinct.”*



Hallie Heller

ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages)

Division Avenue High School

Quote: *"One child, one teacher, one book, one pen can change the world."*
-Malala Yousafzai



Chelsea Karr

Special Education

Division Avenue High School

Quote: “My approach focuses on meeting each student where they are and providing the support they need to be successful. I strive to create a classroom environment that is safe, supportive, and engaging. Differentiation is a key part of my teaching, allowing me to highlight students’ strengths while also challenging them to grow. I prioritize interactive and engaging instruction, using energy and appropriate humor to keep students involved and invested in their learning. Building strong relationships is also central to my teaching. When students feel comfortable, valued, and respected, they are more motivated to participate and take ownership of their progress.”



Kathy Mack

Teaching Assistant

Division Avenue High School

Quote: *“Every child has unique talents and can learn!”*



Nicholas Mannarino

Teaching Assistant

Division Avenue High School

Quote: *"An investment in knowledge
pays the best interest"*

- Benjamin Franklin



Danielle Palumbo

Guidance Counselor

Division Avenue High School

Quote: “I often remind students that life’s path isn’t always straight—it twists, turns, and curves along the way. I believe growth doesn’t come from following a perfect plan, but from learning to adapt, reflect, and keep moving forward. I encourage students to understand that it’s okay to change their minds, majors, or even careers as they grow. My own journey reflects this, and I’m grateful for the unexpected turns that have shaped who I am today. Each experience has strengthened me as a counselor and helped me better connect with and support my students. I look ahead with excitement and pride as I continue guiding students on their own unique paths.”



Lauren Ryder

Math Teacher

Division Avenue High School

Quote: *“Teachers have three loves: love of learning, love of learners, and the love of bringing the first two loves together.”*

— Scott Hayden



Christin Snow-DeGrom

Special Education Chairperson

Division Avenue High School

Quote: *“Every student, regardless of ability, deserves access to meaningful and inclusive education. In special education, my philosophy centers on recognizing each learner’s unique strengths, needs, and learning styles.”*



Maggie Weidlein

Special Education

Division Avenue High School

Quote: *“I believe students learn best in environments where their efforts are recognized, so I celebrate both big and small accomplishments to encourage growth and confidence. My teaching approach is student centered, meeting each learner where they are and helping them build the skills needed for success in and out of the classroom.”*



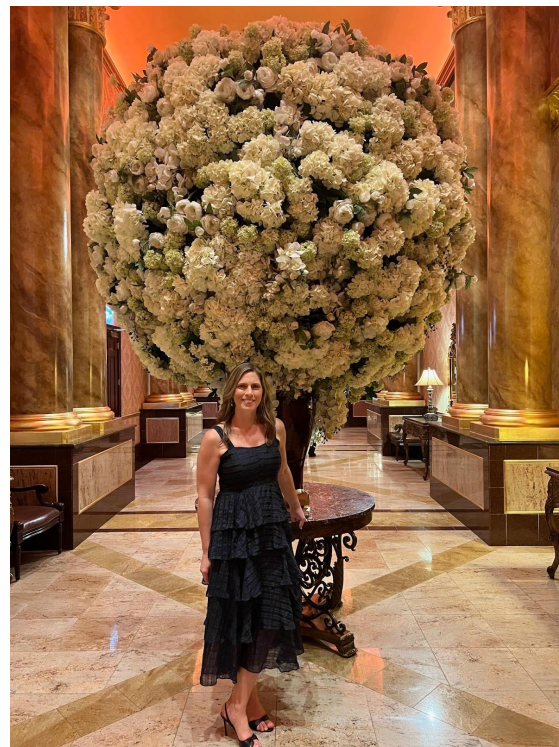
Angela LoBianco

Teaching Assistant

East Broadway Elementary School

Quote: *"Every child deserves a champion—an adult who will never give up on them, who understands the power of connection and insists that they become the best they can possibly be."*

— Rita Pierson



Barbara Mancuso

Teaching Assistant

East Broadway Elementary School

Quote: *“You’re always learning, even when you’re wrong.”*



Jessica Marciano

Assistant Principal

East Broadway Elementary School

Quote: *"Anyone who has never made a mistake has never tried anything new."*
— Albert Einstein



Jaimie Morrison

Teaching Assistant

East Broadway Elementary School

Quote: “To meet students where they are and support their growth in an inclusive environment, cultivating confidence, independence, and a love of learning through meaningful, hands-on experiences.”



Alexandra Stuhlinger

Teaching Assistant

East Broadway Elementary School

Quote: *“Every behavior is a form of communication, and every learner deserves a teacher who listens, observes, and responds with purpose.”*



Maria Kostkowicz

Elementary Teacher

Gardiners Avenue Elementary School

Quote: *“Early literacy is not the teaching of words alone, but the nurturing of meaning, curiosity, and voice in every child.”*

(inspired by Marie Clay)



Madison Seniuk

Elementary Teacher

Gardiners Avenue Elementary School

Quote: *“The beautiful thing about learning is that no one can take it away from you.”*

- B.B. King



Kirsten Quinn

Elementary Teacher

Lee Road Elementary School

Quote: *“The best learning happens when students feel safe enough to take risks, supported enough to grow, and inspired enough to lead.”*



Katherine Grabowski

School Psychologist

MacArthur High School

Quote: *“Through my work in the schools, I want to continue being an accessible resource for any student, or really anyone, in need, ultimately aiming to reduce the stigma that has come to be associated with receiving mental health assistance.”*



Paige Illiano

Family and Consumer Science

MacArthur High School

Quote: *“I believe in hands-on, real-world learning that gives students the practical skills, confidence, and independence they need to succeed in everyday life!!”*



Siobhan Joyce

Teaching Assistant

MacArthur High School

Quote: *“I want students to not only develop technical skills but also understand the meaning behind their work.”*



Natalia Puglisi

World Language

MacArthur High School

Quote: *“My goal as an educator is to inspire students through language, culture, and communication while creating a supportive environment where every learner is challenged, valued, and empowered to succeed.”*



Ryan Snyder

Social Studies Teacher

MacArthur High School

Quote: *“The greatest lesson I can give isn’t in a curriculum- it’s the moment a student realizes ‘I can do this’.”*



Heidi Finn

Teaching Assistant

Northside Elementary School

Quote: *“An investment in knowledge
pays the best interest.”*

-Benjamin Franklin



Chance Freeman

Special Education

Northside Elementary School

Quote: *“If you’re not having fun, you’re not learning.”*



Melissa Streiber

Teaching Assistant

Northside Elementary School

Quote: *“I see my role as not only assisting the teacher but also as a guide who encourages students to ask questions, get hands on experience, and learn from mistakes.”*



Susan Turco

Teaching Assistant

Northside Elementary School

Quote: *“The purpose of education is to replace an empty mind with an open one.”*

- Malcolm Forbes



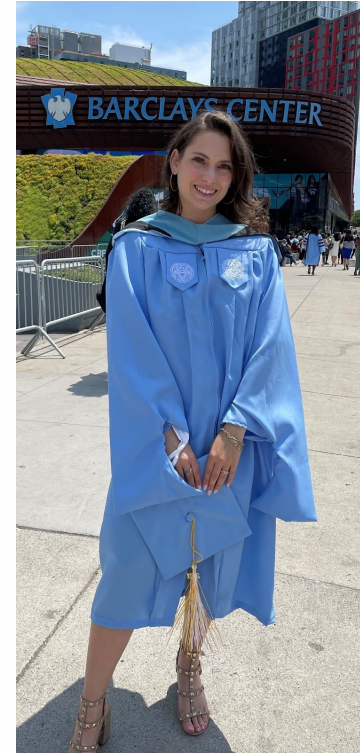
Olympia Zipitas

School Psychologist

Northside Elementary School

Quote: *“Put your heart, mind, and soul into even the smallest acts. This is the secret of success.”*

– Swami Sivananda

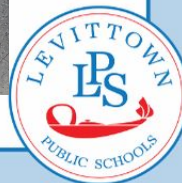


Michele DiLevo

Elementary Teacher (6th Grade)

Salk Middle School School

Quote: *“I believe education is most effective when the whole student is the focus, and instruction is shaped to support both academic success and the personal development of each learner.”*



Lauren Ganz

Teaching Assistant

Salk Middle School School

Quote: *“Believe you can and you’re halfway there.”*



Victoria Gianatiempo

Math Teacher

Salk Middle School School

Quote: *“I believe in building strong relationships with students while promoting higher-level thinking through meaningful problem-solving and real-world application in math.”*



Debra Kirby

Teaching Assistant

Salk Middle School School

Quote: *“Children learn best when they feel cared for, safe, and happy with mutual respect and some laughs too!”*



Joanna Larkin

Teaching Assistant

Salk Middle School School

Quote: *“School has a finish line; education does not.”*



Deniz Ozel-Sevengul

Teaching Assistant

Salk Middle School School

Quote: *“Every child deserves an education with support, encouragement and patience.”*



Carla Pimentel

World Language

Salk Middle School School

Quote: *"I believe learning a language is an immersive, lifelong journey that fosters cultural understanding, meaningful connections, and the development of empowered global citizens."*



Samantha Soguero

Special Education

Salk Middle School School

Quote: *“I believe strong relationships drive learning, and by meeting students where they are, I support their growth and confidence.”*



Erica Bleimeyer

Science Teacher

Salk Middle School School
MacArthur High School

Quote: *“Education the mind without educating the heart is not education at all.”*

-Aristotle



Nicholas Brown

Physical Education/Health Teacher

Salk Middle School School
MacArthur High School

Quote: “My philosophy centers on building a supportive classroom community, fostering understanding, encouraging student ownership of learning, and emphasizing real-world application. By promoting collaboration, open communication, and student-driven activities, I aim to create an engaging environment where students feel respected and motivated to succeed. Ultimately, teaching is an evolving practice, and I remain committed to continuous growth in order to make a meaningful impact on my students’ lives.”



Melanie Carey

Reading Teacher

Salk Middle School School
MacArthur High School

Quote: “My educational philosophy centers on providing targeted, personalized, and authentic reading instruction that meets each student’s unique needs while fostering confidence and growth. I believe all students can succeed when given the right tools, strategies, and a supportive, compassionate environment. By building strong relationships and using a combination of assessments and observations, I identify students’ strengths and areas for growth to guide instruction. I emphasize a positive, growth-oriented mindset by celebrating successes and modeling strategies to strengthen skills, helping students feel confident in their abilities as readers and writers. Committed to both my students and school community, I strive to create an engaging, inclusive classroom that reflects my lifelong passion for teaching and my goal of making a meaningful impact on students’ lives.”



Hannah Marrero

Music Teacher

Summit Lane Elementary School
Gardiners Avenue Elementary School

Quote: *“Music education is the practice of honoring who students are, inviting them to question and create, and trusting that in making music together, they become more fully human.”*



Joanna Georgatos

Teaching Assistant

Wisdom Lane Middle School

Quote: *“Why fit in when you were born to stand out?”*



Mary Hunter

Speech Language Pathologist

Wisdom Lane Middle School

Quote: *“True communication happens when we meet someone where they are.”*



John Nizinski

Social Studies Teacher

Wisdom Lane Middle School

Quote: *“Students don’t care how much you know until they know how much you care.”*

-Theodore Roosevelt



Jennifer Panella

Teaching Assistant

Wisdom Lane Middle School

Quote: *"The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically. Intelligence plus character that is the true goal of education"*

- Martin Luther King Jr.



David Radtke

Teaching Assistant

Wisdom Lane Middle School

Quote: *“Success for Every Student”*



Daniela Specht

Art Teacher

Wisdom Lane Middle School

Quote: *"Art has the role in education of helping children become like themselves instead of more like everyone else."*



Stephanie Mazza

Art Teacher

Wisdom Lane Middle School

Quote: *To practice any art, no matter how well or badly, is a way to make your soul grow. So do it.*

-Kurt Vonnegut



Shannon Myles

Math Teacher

Salk Middle School

Quote: *"Kids don't remember what you try to teach them. They remember what you are"*

-Jim Henson

