



**Congratulations on Tenure!**

**May 20, 2025**



# Nicole Del Toro

Elementary Teacher

Abbey Lane Elementary School

Quote: “*YOU CAN. End of story.*”





# Roberta Nilsen

Foreign Language Teacher

Division Avenue High School



**Quote:** *"My passion for Italian began at a young age, inspired by its beauty, history, and culture. Thanks to my high school teacher, Mrs. Romano, I discovered a love for the language that I now bring into my classroom. For 14 years, I've taught Italian through real-world communication, cultural exploration, and student-centered activities. My lessons balance speaking, listening, reading, and writing while building confidence and community. I believe in setting high expectations with empathy and encouragement. I use songs, games, food, current events, and authentic resources to bring Italy to life. I support all learners by differentiating instruction and creating a space where students feel safe to take risks and make mistakes. My goal is for students to gain language skills, cultural awareness, and a lifelong appreciation for Italian—just as I did."*





# Christopher Rossi

Band Director/Music Teacher

Division Avenue High School



**Quote:** *My responsibility as an educator is to create a nurturing and inclusive environment conducive to learning, growth, and personal development. An environment like this is important so that students feel open to being their true selves, but also free to make mistakes. In a culture where we push the importance of test scores, academic success, and in-school course work we can not lose sight of teaching students that learning is the act of making a mistake, picking yourself up, and pushing forward. My classroom is an environment where it is safe and even encouraged to make mistakes as they are a cornerstone of lifelong learning. I believe it is paramount that we prepare students to be high-functioning members of society regardless of their life and career choices.*





# Deanna Bellotti

Elementary Teacher

East Broadway Elementary School

Quote: *"I believe that all students can grow as learners in an environment that provides consistency, care, understanding of their needs, and genuine interest from teachers."*





# Debra Garcia

Teaching Assistant

East Broadway Elementary School

Quote: *“All children are unique and should have a stimulating educational environment where they can grow mentally, emotionally and socially.”*





# Almut Volpe

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 they become the best they can possibly be.”*

-Rita Pierson



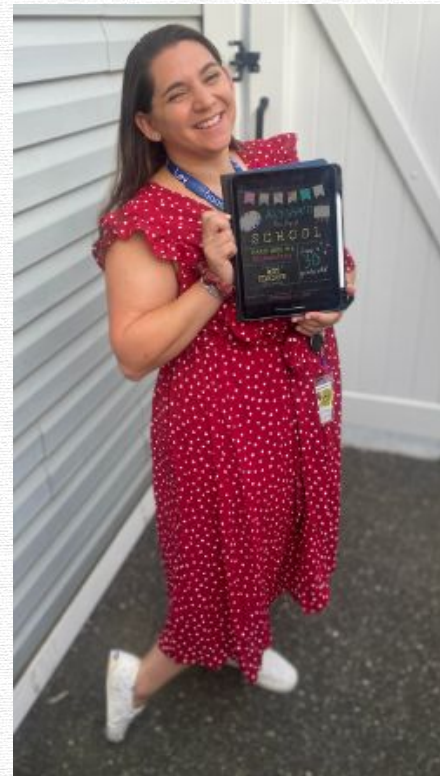


# Alyssa Arndt

Art Teacher

Gardiners Avenue Elementary School

Quote: *"Every child is an artist. The problem is how to remain an artist when they grow up"*





# Katarzyna Bolko

Teaching Assistant

Gardiners Avenue Elementary School

Quote: *" The more that you read,  
The more things you will know,  
The more that you learn, The more  
places you'll go"*

- Dr. Seuss





# Katherine Rigano

Music Teacher

Gardiners Avenue Elementary School

Quote: *"My goal as a music educator is to foster a life-long love of music in all of my students. I wish to instill this in my students not only so they become great musicians, but so that they can excel in other walks of life. Music education extracts something positive from every individual. It can emerge a gift, spark confidence, flame a hidden talent, enhance a mathematical mind, inspire happiness, and have a calming effect as therapy. All are positive influences that prove why fostering a life-long love of music is so vital to an elementary student."*





# Jennifer Belmonte

Special Education Teacher

Lee Road Elementary School

Quote: *"Every student can learn,  
just not on the same day, or in the  
same way."*

-George Evans





# Tracey Lindenmuth

Teaching Assistant

Lee Road Elementary School

Quote: *"I believe that all children should have the ability to learn in their least restrictive environment. And that social and emotional needs are just as important as academic!"*





# Lauren Maitles

Speech Teacher

Lee Road Elementary School

Quote: *"As a speech-language pathologist, I am committed to fostering a student-centered environment where every learner feels empowered to grow. Through individualized, hands-on experiences and a strong foundation of trust, I help my students build the confidence and communication skills they need to succeed in all areas of life."*





# Barbara Piccione

Teaching Assistant

Lee Road Elementary School

Quote: *“Teach each day like it’s  
your child in the front row!”*





# Lauren Brzezinski

Science Teacher

MacArthur High School

Quote: *“My goal is to not just teach science, but to spark curiosity, inspire critical thinking, and empower my students to see the world through a lens of wonder and evidence.”*





# Matthew Cooley

Special Education Teacher

MacArthur High School

Quote: *"The impact we have on students lives will last far beyond our years in the classroom."*





# Colleen Curran

Speech Teacher

MacArthur High School  
Salk Middle School

Quote: *“Through collaboration, education and motivation, I hope to encourage my students to reach their full potential and become lifelong learners.”*





# Brandon Fitzgerald

Teaching Assistant

MacArthur High School

Quote: *"I believe that all children are unique and are entitled to a differentiated education that will help them thrive throughout their lives. As their teacher it is my job to unlock their full potential and cater to their educational needs to help them succeed."*





# Lindsay Jan-McCAnn

Foreign Language Teacher

MacArthur High School

Quote: *"Each day, I strive to create a nurturing environment where students feel empowered to embrace their linguistic potential and celebrate the vibrant diversity of Spanish-speaking cultures."*





# Brian Maini

Health Teacher

MacArthur High School

Quote: *"The goal isn't to win the game  
- it's to love the game enough to keep  
playing"*





# Luke Merz

Art Teacher

MacArthur High School

*Quote: "Thus art is not an object, it is an experience."*

-Josef Albers





# Francis Ziegler

Social Studies Teacher

MacArthur High School

Quote: *"While students may forget what you said, they will never forget how you made them feel. My hope is that every student who has ever been in my class remembers it as a welcoming and positive experience."*





# Jada Atchison

Elementary Teacher

Northside Elementary School

*Quote: "To teach in a manner that respects and cares for students is essential if we are to provide the necessary conditions where learning can most deeply and intimately begin."*

-Bell Hooks





# Travis Cooksey

Special Education Teacher

Northside Elementary School

Quote: *"No one can help everyone,  
but everyone can help someone."*





# Nicole Pappas

Elementary Teacher

Northside Elementary School

*Quote: "Tell me and I forget. Teach me and I remember. Involve me and I learn."*

-Benjamin Franklin





# Lauren Margolis

Technology Teacher

Salk Middle School

Wisdom Lane Middle School

*Quote: "Tell me and I forget. Teach me and I remember. Involve me and I learn."*

-Benjamin Franklin





# Julie Joshuakutty

Special Education Chairperson

Salk Middle School

Quote: *“Equity in education means meeting each student where they are and giving them what they need to grow—so they can become confident, capable adults with dignity, purpose, and hope.”*





# Stephanie Rodgers

Elementary Teacher

Summit Lane Elementary School

Quote: *“A classroom should be a community, where every student feels valued, supported, and capable of success, no matter their starting point or abilities.”*





# Diana Pretter

Elementary Teacher

Summit Lane 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 that they can possibly be.”*

-Rita Pierson





# Mary Esquenazi-Wolf

Teaching Assistant

Wisdom Lane Middle School

Quote: *"Education is the passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to those who prepare for it today."*

-Malcolm X





# Kathleen Woodworth

Technology Teacher

Wisdom Lane Middle School

Quote: *“With positive attitude, you can graciously overcome every adversity.”*

— Lailah Gifty Akita





# Patrick Burke

Director of Social Studies and FACS

Quote: "Intelligence plus character - that is the goal of true education."





# Dr. Patricia Kolodnicki

Curriculum Associate for Data and Instruction

Levittown Memorial Education Center

Quote: *“While my work often revolves around data and numbers, I’m most inspired by the student stories behind them—the learners at Levittown who shine through academic achievement or who show incredible perseverance and growth. I’m grateful for the opportunity to keep telling those stories and celebrating every form of success.”*





# Mr. Michael Fabiano

Assistant Superintendent for Business & Finance

Levittown Memorial Education Center

