



# MANITOU SPRINGS SCHOOL DISTRICT 14

# GO MUSTANGS!

MANITOU SPRINGS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL • UTE PASS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL • MANITOU SPRINGS MIDDLE SCHOOL • MANITOU SPRINGS HIGH SCHOOL

## MEET THE NEWEST MEMBERS OF THE HERD FOR THE 2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR!

### MSSD New Staff



#### **Kate Kettler, Art UPES**

Kate is coming to Ute Pass Elementary to teach art, library and technology. She has been in education for 12 years including schools in India and Australia. She loves to read, hike, bike and make arts and crafts with her family. Kate loves playing with kids of all ages and can't wait to meet the families at Ute Pass.



#### **Ann Fox, Special Education Teacher MSES**

Anna is from Nashville, Tennessee. She attended the University of Dayton in Ohio to earn her undergraduate degree as an Intervention Specialist and minor in psychology. Anna has lived in Colorado for a little over a year now, and she has absolutely loved living so close to the mountains so she can do all her favorite things: hike, camp, and ski. Anna feels so blessed to be able to join Manitou Springs Elementary School as the new Significant Special Needs teacher! Go Mustangs!



#### **Amy Jo Saren, Preschool Paraprofessional MSES**

Amy is so thrilled to be joining the MSES community as part of the Preschool Team. For the last 10 years she has been working with children. It is Amy's passion to make sure that every child she teaches is understood and fully respected. Every child has unique value and who they are matters!



#### **Timothy Barrette-Yee, 6th Grade Social Studies MSMS**

Tim is excited to be the MSMS 6th grade Social Studies teacher! He is originally from Southern California; however, has lived in numerous locations throughout the United States, and is happy to have ended up in Manitou Springs. Tim earned his bachelor's and master's from California State University, Fullerton in history and received his teaching certificate from UCCS' teacher preparation program and he makes it no secret that I love learning. Tim worked several years as a Middle School

Site Coordinator planning enriching activities for students, and developing a passion for student empowerment, deep learning, and creating an educational environment that is both safe for exploration and engendering of grit. Outside of school, Tim has several passions such as hiking, camping, snowboarding, reading, playing guitar, painting, attempting woodworking, setting off his smoke alarm while cooking, house plants, taking care of his dog, and cheering for Los Angeles Clippers.



#### **Matthew Rogge, English & Journalism MSHS**

Matthew (English, Yearbook Advisor) has been a substitute and coach in District 14 for the past 3 years. Matt has a BS in Communications from Kansas University and graduate work in public administration and non-profit management from UCCS, was a Peace Corps volunteer, and for the past twenty years has led leadership development programs throughout Colorado.



#### **Adam Harris, Evening Custodian**

Adam is a new transplant to Manitou, having recently moved here from Iowa City, Iowa, where he worked at the University of Iowa. Adam loves hiking and biking and is enjoying exploring all the beautiful trails in this area. He's visited Manitou many times before and is happy to finally be an official resident. Adam is excited to be joining the staff at Manitou Springs High School and becoming a part of the Mustang Herd!



#### **Tyler Coleman, Evening Custodian**

Tyler is from northwest Missouri is happy to make Colorado his home. His girlfriend is a 4th grade teacher in Colorado Springs. Tyler is a classically trained guitarist and loves spending time with his Rottweiler, Rhodi, and Boxer, Toph. Tyler is happy to be a Mustang!



#### **Kara Jeck, 6th Grade UPES**

Kara Jeck graduated from Pittsburg State University with degrees in Psychology Education, ESOL, and Middle School Math. She just recently graduated with her master's in Special Education. Kara has taught both middle school math and Special Education and is looking forward to joining the Ute Pass team as the new addition to the 6th grade Mountain Academy for Arts and Sciences. Kara loves to hike, kayak, and camp and is excited to bring her passion for the outdoors into the classroom.



#### **Jessica Avery, Social Studies MSHS**

Jessica Avery is the American Government and Sociology teacher this year at MSHS. She earned her bachelor's in history from the University of Toledo and her master's in educational studies from the University of Michigan. She has credentials in trauma-Informed Practice (TIP), International Baccalaureate (IB), and English as a Second Language (ESL). She was a competitive swimmer for fifteen years and a two-year captain of her college team. Jessica is very excited to join the team at MSHS and to live in the beautiful state of Colorado.



#### **Abby Steen, Choir Teacher MSMS/MSHS**

After graduating from Manitou Springs High School in 2008, Abby attended The University of Denver for Vocal Performance. After graduating from DU with a bachelor's degree in Vocal Performance in 2012, Abby moved back to Colorado Springs where she helped direct several middle and high school performances for Manitou Springs School District. Among these shows Abby collaborated with Wendy Harms and Nicole Berry on West Side Story and The Music Man Spring musicals. In addition to directing shows, Abby performed in several bands across Colorado Springs and loves singing jazz and big band music. After two years of studying at CSU Pueblo for her teaching license, Abby is excited to join the Manitou Springs Mustangs in the Fall of 2020 as the middle and high school choir teacher!



#### **Dustin Cady, Principal MSMS**

Dustin is honored to serve as principal of Manitou Springs Middle School. He has a bachelor's degree in Spanish from the University of Oregon, a master's degree in culturally and linguistically diverse education (CLDE) from CSU-Pueblo, and his principal licensure through Western State University. When he is not at school, Dustin spends time with his toddler, Will, and his wife, Mary, who is also an educator. He loves to go trail running and fly fishing on the weekends. Dustin is a positive, connecting, committed school leader who strives to bring out the best in all members of the school community. Go Mustang



#### **Cheryl Witzman, District Nurse**

Cheryl has been a School Nurse for over 16 years and most recently worked in the Harrison School District. She is passionate about school nursing and public health. Cheryl believes strongly in serving the total child, families, and staff. In her previous districts, she has been the nurse for a preschool/PreK, Child Find, as well as elementary, middle school and high school. Cheryl is very excited to be joining the Manitou Springs School District and its awesome community. She looks forward to the challenges this unique school year will bring and being able to help our staff and families navigate through these uncharted times.

During her free time, Cheryl loves spending time outdoors with her family.



#### **Edie Willhite, Bus Driver**

Edie and her husband, Dave moved to Manitou Springs in 2018, and they love it! She is a proud mom, a published author, life coach (www.ManitouGuru.com), advocate and caregiver for her adult son. She is also a 2019 Peabody Award Recipient for the HBO Documentary "A Dangerous Son" (which addresses the increasing crisis of childhood mental illness and its effect on families and society). She feels extremely honored in her new role in transporting students with intensive needs and is looking forward to growing old with Manitou Springs District 14.



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