



# MANITOU SPRINGS SCHOOL DISTRICT 14

# GO MUSTANGS!

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

## Meet our new Manitou Springs Elementary School staff members!

**Alice Barnett, District Nurse**



Alice joined MSSD14 in March as a part-time district nurse. She has been a school nurse for the past 12 years and before that her focus was neonatal intensive care. Alice is a long-time Manitou resident, with both sons graduating from MSHS. In her free time, Alice enjoys time with grandchildren,

water sports and as much time spent outside as possible.

**Julie Meier, School Secretary**



After taking a year off, Julie is happy to be back as the secretary at Manitou Springs Elementary. She lives in Manitou Springs with her husband and enjoys working for the school district that is part of their community. Julie has two sons and a daughter. One son lives in Michigan and

her other two children live in Colorado Springs. Julie's granddaughter attends MSES and it brightens her day each morning to hear, "Good morning, Grandma." Julie's hobbies include reading, hiking and growing indoor plants. She feels lucky to be part of the MSSD14 team.

**Sophia Marchiando, Para Professional**



Education is Sophia's passion and she is super excited to be a part of the Manitou Springs family.

**Sammie Joe Kinnett, Para Professional**



Sammie Joe is thrilled to join the team of amazing educators at Manitou Springs Elementary School. He has spent the past several years teaching theatre classes at Theaterworks and the Millibo Art Theatre. He is also a professional actor in the Colorado region and has already seen his collaborative

skills and character work put to use in helping Manitou Springs students thrive. Children are adults in training and our compassion as teachers reach every life they touch.

**Jesse Hunter, Para Professional**



Jesse is happy to join the team at Manitou Springs Elementary School after subbing in the building last school year!

**Jenny Romano, Special Education Teacher**



Jenny still remembers a second grader she met, years before becoming a teacher, who was struggling to learn how to read. Ever since that moment, Jenny wanted to learn how struggling students learn and what she could do to help them. Jenny feels so excited to continue her teaching journey

as she starts her first year at Manitou Elementary and her seventh year as a special education teacher! Jenny loves participating in inclusive communities and the process involved to maintain them within our schools. Manitou Elementary is filled with wonderful staff and students and she looks forward to this school year!

## Ute Pass Elementary students take a hike!

Sixth grade students in the Mountain Academy of Arts & Sciences, an experiential program for MSSD14 students, spent the beginning of the school year planning and preparing for an incredible experience. The group of students spent two days last week backpacking in Florissant, where they carried all their gear to the campsite, cooked their meals, bonded as a group and learned in a unique, natural setting.



## Career and College Readiness Corner

Do you remember hearing, "When are we going to use this in the real world?" when you were in high school? That relevance is central to career and college readiness discussions at MSHS.

Last spring, MSHS expanded its health science career pathway, adding two teachers and several new classes.

At its base is the athletic training program lead by Nick Nunley. With over 200 students participating in athletics, it's a natural hook to get students thinking about the number one employment field in Colorado — health care. The courses include aspects from science and math, as well as public health issues. His guest speakers range from physical therapists and public health officials to nurses and doctors.

Students become aware of careers that require a certification, to a bachelor's degree and beyond — and what it takes to get those jobs.

When Nick is not teaching, he can be found on the sidelines as the Mustangs' athletic trainer.

# HOMECOMING IS FRIDAY, SEPT. 13!



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