

New Teachers 2013-2014



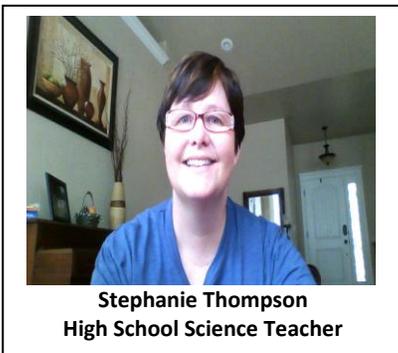
Shauna Wheelwright
High School Special Ed Teacher

Shauna Wheelwright

Mrs. Wheelwright is the new Special Education teacher at the Snake River High School. She earned her BA from Weber State University in Political Science and History and obtained her ABCTE Certification in Special Education. She has also worked as a Para-Educator in Special Education at Blackfoot High School.

Shauna says, "I want to enable the students to be able to see beyond limitations and to the possibilities that are there. I want to be most remembered for believing in every person. Parents and patrons can help me most with my job when they see a person and not just a label."

Mrs. Wheelwright has been married for 25 years and has seven children, four of whom are in collage at four different universities. She says she's a news junkie, along with having an enjoyment of late 20th century history. "I love genealogical research with a forte in Victorian England research. I enjoy hiking and track and field sports."



Stephanie Thompson
High School Science Teacher

Stephanie Thompson

Mrs. Thompson joins the science department staff at the Snake River High School. She graduated from Idaho State University with a degree in secondary education and taught two years at the Idaho Science and Technology Charter School. "My goal is to align and teach curriculum that will benefit students in high school. I will implement strategies that will get Snake River ready for the Common Core curriculum. I work hard and genuinely love science and the opportunity I have every day to influence students for good." How can parents and patrons help me do my job? "I think it starts with me having open communication about concerns and ideas and then the motivation to work together is sparked."

Stephanie loves to spend time with her family. She is a rock hound and enjoys camping, skiing, and anything outdoors. She and her husband, Kent, have four children: two boys and two girls.



Romie Van Orden
Middle School 5th Grade

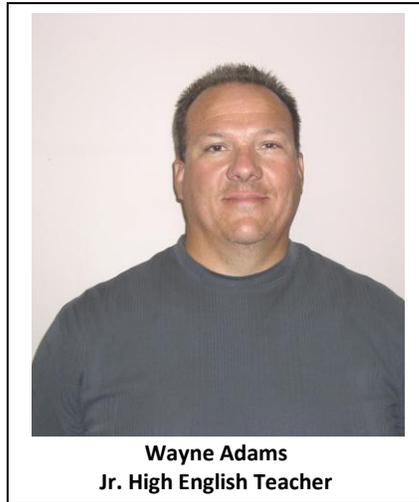
Romie Van Orden

Romie Van Orden will be teaching the 5th Grade at Snake River Middle School. In the past she taught for four "wonderful" years in Aberdeen, Idaho as a 4th grade teacher. She'll tell you her main goal is to make learning fun and exciting for her students. "I am so excited to teach! I want my excitement for learning to rub off on my students. I also want to communicate with my parents about everything we are doing in class. I want to send home weekly letters informing them of what is going on and what we can do to help their child succeed. If I can do those two things, I will feel like I have accomplished my goal for this year. I hope my students and associates will most remember my love for learning! I want to be enthusiastic and positive in every way. I want to be remembered for going above and beyond what is required and doing it very well."

How can the parents and the patrons help me do my job? "Please introduce yourself and if you have any talents or skills that could be shared in a demonstration for a class presentation, I would love to know and talk to you."

Mrs. Van Orden enjoys quilting and has made several quilts for her family members. She also loves taking pictures. "I mostly take pictures of my kids in all their extra-curricular events. I would love to take a class and learn more about photography." She also enjoys reading a good novel when

time permits. Romie says she is married to her best friend Wayne. They have been married for 22 years. Wayne is an electrical contractor and they own Ideal Electric. "Wayne and I have six fabulous children. Three of our six kids will be attending Snake River High School this year. Quincy, our oldest daughter, will be a senior. Joseph will be a sophomore and Mailee will be a freshman. Our three "littles" include Reagan, Brighton, and Taft. Reagan will be a fourth grader, Brighton will be in first grade, and our little guy Taft just turned four. We are super busy with cross country, dancing, riding bikes, and love doing things together as a family. We love living here in Thomas and have enjoyed raising our family in this community."



Wayne Adams

Wayne Adams will be teaching 8th grade English at Snake River Jr. High School this year. He has been teaching 9th and 11th grade English at Aberdeen High School for the last eight years. Wayne also taught 9th grade World History and did some coaching, most recently girls' basketball. He is a proud graduate of Snake River, class of 1986, and graduated from Idaho State University in 2005. "This summer I attended Boise State University for a week and completed an Inquiry and the Common Core class that was outstanding."

Wayne says, "My expectations for this new position are that the kids in my classes will work their tails off and have fun. My goal right now is to adjust to working at the Jr. High... never had the pleasure of working at that level before. As I settle in, I'll work with parents, administration and the other teachers on some more long term goals. I hope that my colleagues and students will always remember how much I love to learn and read. I am always reading new books and rereading the ones I loved the first time. I get very excited about learning new things and will try just about anything once if I feel like there is something to learn from the experience."

Parents and patrons can help Wayne by contacting him and staying in touch throughout the year. "I am thrilled when parents and patrons take interest and allow me to be a partner in their student's education. Please contact me by email or phone anytime. I will be emailing and calling parents regularly to keep them up to date on their student's progress. Parents are the driving force to education and if they are involved the students are successful."

Mr. Adams says, "I enjoy watching and participating in sports. I am a die-hard Pittsburgh Steelers fan. I love to ATV and spend time every year camping and fishing with my family. Listening to and playing music is an important part of my life. I can play a few instruments and enjoy singing when I get the chance. I am in the process of finishing a new bedroom on my house and enjoy doing that kind of work occasionally. My family was one of the first five families that settled this side of the Snake River here in the Blackfoot area. I am a fourth generation Idahoan and very proud of my family's name and our contribution to this area. I come from a family of educators. My father taught at a second chance high school in Logan, Utah. My mother is a retired elementary school librarian. Both my sisters teach, one at the elementary level and the other at the college level. My brother works for BYU Idaho in their online curriculum department. We live and breathe education."

Wayne is married to a "very smart and talented lady named Heather!" They have three daughters attending school in the Snake River district this year: Abigail will be in kindergarten; Jessica is a sophomore who loves sports, especially basketball; and, Madilyn will be a senior and is very excited about photography. He says, "My family is everything to me!"

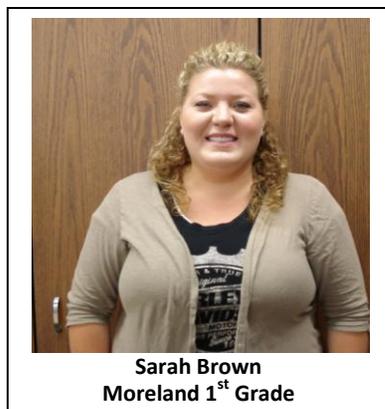


Jenni Perkins

Jenni Perkins is the district's new School Psychologist. She has an Education Specialist endorsement in School Psychology and is in the process of obtaining state certification for Special Education Director. Jenni worked in Pocatello School District #25 for the last seven years. She has also worked as a Psychologist in Arizona and Utah. She says "I am excited to have the opportunity to provide a range of psychological services to the students and staff of Snake River school district."

We asked her what she hoped her students and associates will most remember about her. Jenni said, "I would like to be known for my competency as a school psychologist, as well as for being kind and professional." Parents and patrons can help her do her job. "Attendance is critical for student success, as is open communication with parents and team work between staff, students and families."

Jenni enjoys gardening and yard work during the summer months. She also enjoys being creative and creating her own jewelry. "I am married with two children. My husband works for Northwest Sheet Metal Workers. My oldest daughter is 21 years old and lives in Pocatello with her husband. My son is 15 and attends Blackfoot High School."



Sarah Brown

The Moreland Elementary staff welcomes Sarah Brown as a first grade teacher. She recently graduated from BYU-Idaho with a degree in Elementary Education and has set her goal to be a great teacher and co-worker. Sarah says she hopes that her students remember that she cares about them and always tries to keep their best interests in mind.

Parents can help her succeed in teaching their student by being involved in what their child is doing at school and helping them with homework and, of course, getting them to school on time. Sarah and her husband were married in 2010. "I have two great parents, Tracy and Becky Hawker, as well as three brothers and one sister." Sarah loves music and plays the piano and the harp.



Kammile Watt
High School English Teacher

Kammile Watt

Kammile Watt, Snake River High School English Teacher, graduated in May 2013 from ISU College of Education with a BA in Secondary Ed. English. Before that, in 2007, she received her AAS from the ISU College of Technology in Web Site Design and Management.

Mrs. Watt has set expectations and a goal for herself and her program that each student will be able to have a greater knowledge of American Literature and will also be able to feel confident in their writing skills. She hopes that her associates and students will remember her for her enthusiasm to be a teacher and for her optimism. Parents and the patrons can help her by staying in touch with Power School so they can be informed of their student's progress in the classroom. She also would encourage them to talk to her if there are any concerns that they might have.

Kammile enjoys reading, knitting, working in her yard, and playing on the computer. She has three children, one son-in-law and one grandbaby. Her oldest daughter lives in Arizona where she is attending Arizona State to get her Masters in Criminology. Her son, lives in Pocatello and is attending I.S.U. Her youngest daughter is married and they have one baby girl.



Jeanne Isom
Health Occupations Teacher

Jeanne Isom

Jeanne Isom - Health Occupations Teacher - graduated from Idaho State University. Her work experience includes managing medical collections, behavioral health, pre-operative and post-operative recovery, operating room circulator, and home health and hospice nursing. Much of her nursing career has included training and teaching college students and new nurses for the profession. "My goal is to make some mistakes! If I am making some mistakes you know I am doing and accomplishing things. It is with excitement and pleasure that I work with our future Scientists and Surgeons, Nurses and Caregivers!" She says she would love to be remembered as a Leader, and not a Boss. "I would like to encourage, explain and show how, instead of order and demand. Most of all I want to instill and inspire the students!"

"Parents and community members are invited and encouraged to have an active role in our classroom learning as well as our health education experience in the field. Suggestions and support are welcomed to continue and grow this great program in our district."

Jeanne says, "There is so much in this world to enjoy that I want to live long enough to take it all in. Mostly I want to finish some of the many quilts I have started! I enjoy people, parties and making homemade pastries. Finally, after 15 years, I have learned to like apple pie! Our family

moved to the Thomas community 22 years ago. We still marvel at the goodness of people throughout the area. After dairy farming for years, my husband became a registered nurse, then after having seven children, it was my time for formal education. If you have heard of the Isoms, then you may be your familiar with our Honey crisp apples raised on the family orchard. Our children span from Tennessee to California, from the Philippines to right here in Thomas, Idaho. KayDee, Julie and Benson will be going to school with mom and we are all excited!"



Ginger Van Orden
Moreland Special Ed Teacher

Ginger Van Orden

Ginger VanOrden is the new Special Education Teacher at Moreland Elementary. She has worked for the Snake River School District since 2006 as a Special Education Paraprofessional, Director of the After School Program at the Middle School, and most recently as a substitute teacher while finishing her degree in Human Exceptionality from ISU. It is Ginger's personal goal to make sure each of her students excel while in her classroom and to leave her room feeling successful and confident both as a learner and an individual. "I hope my students and associates remember me as a friend and a teacher who never gave up. I want my students to look back with fond memories of the time they spent in my classroom and perhaps even learned to love learning."

Parents and patrons can best help Ginger by becoming involved in education. "Whether it is supporting and participating in their own child's education or supporting community events and becoming more knowledgeable about our education system."

Ginger says she loves to camp with her family, and to golf, shop, and work in her yard. "I took up running this summer and I hope to continue to become a healthier person. I consider myself one lucky lady. I have been married to a wonderful man for 22 years; we

have three children, and one humungous dog. My oldest son Siler is a senior this year. My second son, Colby, was my inspiration to go back to school and become a special education teacher, he passed away in 2007. Mya is our beautiful island baby who is now in the 6th grade. My dog Rocco is a French Mastiff, who weighs more than I do, but is a gentle giant. I definitely would not be who I am today without the love and support my family has given me throughout the years.



Mindy Davison
Middle School 5th Grade

Mindy Davison

Snake River Middle School welcomes Mindy Davison to their 5th grade teaching staff. She is a 2012 graduate of the University of Phoenix with a degree in Education. She worked as the school secretary for the Idaho Science and Technology Charter School from 2009-2011. Last year she did her student teaching at the Middle School. She says, "Every year I hope to improve my teaching skills and to help my students do the very best that they can. I would like my students and associates to know that I care for them and that I loved being a teacher!"

How can parents and the patrons help her do her job? "Be supportive of what I am trying to accomplish in the classroom."

Mindy likes to paper-craft, read, and spend time with her family. She is married to Roger Davison and they have five children: Brooklyn is a sophomore at Brigham Young University – Provo. Three of her children attend Snake River High School: Connor is a sophomore; Kassidy is a sophomore; and Taylor is a freshman. Her son Hunter is in 6th grade.



Laura Gabrylczyk
Jr. High Science Teacher

Laura Gabrylczyk

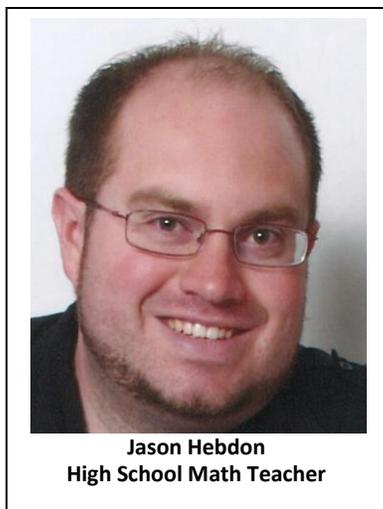
Laura Gabrylczyk, M.Ed., will be teaching 8th Grade Earth Science at Snake River Jr. High School. She started her teaching career at Snake River in 2000 as an ESL teacher. Since then she's taught at Idaho State University and Idaho Digital Learning Academy. Then she began a career in School Counseling with the Blackfoot School District. "But I also have a degree in Science and I'm very excited to have my new teaching assignment in that area."

About her expectations and goals for herself and her program at Snake River, Laura says, "I hope to use my years with IDLA to engage students with the subject material utilizing technology and helping bridge the connections to their future careers using science. After my courses are on Moodle, watch for my new Blog.... It's not named yet, so suggestions are welcomed." She asks parents and patrons to "Let your students teach you what they have learned every day. Volunteer to share your expertise in the field of Earth Science with our class. There are lots of labs and after school opportunities where I would be thrilled to have you facilitate!"

Laura loves to mountain climb, machine quilt, snow ski, garden, and anything I can do with my four boys (swim, basketball, baseball, run, eat, laugh, play-play-play). She says she wants to be remembered for living her mantra... "Work Hard/Play Hard!"

"Other than a grandpa and uncle, we are the only Gabrylczyks found in the US. My husband is Mark Gabrylczyk and we have four wonderful boys; Collin 13, Cameron 11, Christopher 7, and Cy 4. We have relatives in Virginia and try to vacation there as much as possible. Although Mark was born in Cleveland, and I was born in remote Central Idaho, Blackfoot is where we met and is where we have enjoyed raising our family."

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Jason Hebdon
High School Math Teacher

Jason Hebdon

Jason Hebdon joins the High School Math department. He will be teaching Algebra and Geometry. Mr. Hebdon grew up in Grace Idaho and says he is "so excited for the opportunity to teach in a farm community similar to the one that I grew up in!" Jason's has a Bachelor Degree in Secondary Ed with certifications in Biology, Geology, and Math, and would like to increase his Math certifications within the next three years. He has been a personal tutor in Math and Science for 10 years and has done some teaching at Pocatello High School and Pocatello Charter School.

We asked him what he hopes his students and associates will most remember about him and he said... "Always having a smile, a good can-do attitude, and making math easy and fun to learn." He asks that parents and patrons be patient with him in this new curriculum. "It will take me a little time to get it all under my belt. I would also enjoy hearing comments of what I can do better and what I am doing that the students are enjoying so I can keep doing it."

Jason tells us: "I love coaching! I am currently coaching Little League Football in Pocatello. I have coached basketball and football previously as well. I also really enjoy my family! Any time I can get a few moments with my family I value it! We just built our own home 2 years ago in north Chubbuck (close to Tyhee) My wife, Heather, works in the accounting and cards department at ISU credit Union in Pocatello. She is also pregnant with our 2nd child due in

March. We have 1 daughter named Addison who is almost 4 years old and she basically runs the house! We all enjoy going for walks, watching movies, and sometimes just being silly around each other."



Scott Wood
High School/Jr. High ESL Teacher

Scott Wood

The district's new ESL teacher is Scott Wood who recently graduated from ISU. This summer he has been teaching adult English lessons for the Latino Economic and Development Center (LEAD) in Blackfoot. He has also been working at the Bannock County Historical Museum. While attending ISU he worked in the computer labs.

Scott says he has expectations for his students and has set goals for himself and his program at Snake River. "I hope to help students become self-sufficient and self-motivated learners. To help students become self-sufficient learners I think it is important to show them what resources are freely available and to teach them different methods of studying. To help students become self-motivated learners I would demonstrate how things that are taught in the classroom can be applied to real life situations." He hopes they will remember him as friendly, hardworking, and knowledgeable. "I would also like to be known as somebody that shows real concern for others."

The most helpful way that parents and patrons could help him would be to communicate with him. Mr. Wood says, "This would hopefully keep small problems from growing and help keep families and communities connected in helping students."

Scott likes to read, visit historical sites, and spend time with friends. "I have been married for four and a half years. We have a son who is two years old and a dog named Smugly. My son is a little monkey who started climbing before he could even walk. My wife is from New York City. She works for the Afterschool Program in Pocatello/Chubbuck School District. We live in Pocatello."



Cass Baldwin
High School Science Teacher

Cass Baldwin

Cass Baldwin will be teaching science classes at the high school this year and is "excited to be a part of the personnel that will make Snake River science classes the envy of any school!" Last year he taught at the Butte County High School and coached their track team.

"I want to be remembered for being a great teacher...with all that is entailed in that title," says Cass. He suggests it would be helpful for the parents of his students and the patrons to raise their expectations of him as a teacher and of the administrators.

A special interest or hobby of his is to coach. "I love to coach," he says. Cass and his wife, Mindy, have been married for 20 years. They have five children: Kai is preparing for an LDS mission in Wisconsin; Scott is a senior at Snake River High School; Porter is a freshman this year; Taite is a 7th grader at the Jr. High; and Reese is a 2nd grader at Riverside Elementary.



Rebecca Young
Moreland 1st Grade

Rebecca Young

Rebecca (Becky) Young - first grade teacher at Moreland - has been working in the district as a substitute teacher, a Title 1 paraprofessional, and most recently as a student teacher. We asked her if she had set any expectations or goals for herself at Snake River and she said: "I hope to have an open and healthy line of communication with parents and community members. I would love to have community member and parents show my students how they continue to learn and would love to have volunteers read to students in the classroom." Becky loves to learn and hopes that she can share this passion with her students and associates. Her favorite quote is, "Learning isn't a spectator's sport, so let's play!"

Becky tells us she is married to the love of her life, Jason Young. They have three very active sons that attend school in the district. Treyton is in 6th grade, Coby is in 8th Grade and Brody is in 10th grade. "I love being a mom and watching my children play sports! I love sports of all kinds. My husband and I are member of the National Ski Patrol, patrolling at Kelly's Canyon."



Jennifer Stratton
Riverside 2nd Grade

Jennifer Stratton

Jenni Stratton will be teaching 2nd grade at Riverside Elementary School. She received her MAT from Concordia University in 2011 and her BS from Texas A&M University in 2009. Jenni taught first grade for two years at the Arco Elementary School.

Jenni has set goals for herself and she hopes that her students and associates remember her for being a good teacher. She wants parents to trust that she knows what she's doing and that she wants her students to succeed in and out of the classroom

Jenn's hobbies include swimming and running.