

Welcome New Staff

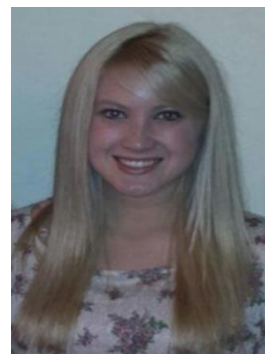
Chelsea Bassett

Chelsea Bassett is a first year teacher. After student teaching last year at Cherry Street Intermediate School, she graduated from Western Governors University with a Bachelors of Arts Degree. Chelsea enjoys being outside, camping, skiing and golfing. She has a husband, Wesley and three children. Chelsea is joining the Birch Street Staff as a GSRP Preschool Lead Teacher.



Hannah Blowski

Hannah Blowski has been working in the preschool setting for the past four years. She graduated from Spring Arbor University where she earned her Bachelor of Arts in Early Childhood Education with an endorsement in Early Childhood. She will be a lead teacher in the GSRP program. Miss Blowski loves the outdoors and is excited to move to the area and join the teaching team at KPS.



Rebecca Dakin

Rebecca Dakin is an elementary educator with a strong passion for children and learning. She is a Central Michigan University graduate with a Bachelor of Science degree in Elementary Education with specialty areas including mathematics and language arts. Past experience with children include being an After School Program teacher with kindergarten through second grade students. Rebecca enjoys watching movies, playing tennis, and doing many DIY projects and crafts. She is a first grade teacher at Birch Street Elementary.



Dana Dixon

Saginaw Valley State University to fulfil her lifelong dream of becoming a teacher. She graduated from SVSU with a Bachelor of Arts degree in History and Special Education. Upon graduation, Mrs. Dixon spent one year at Beaver Island Lighthouse Alternative School. Mrs. Dixon has spent the last three years teaching Special Education at Lake City Area Schools. She is very excited to be back at Kalkaska Public Schools teaching Special Education. She will be split between the Middle School and Cherry Street.



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Bryan Hawkins

Bryan Hawkins is joining our high school staff with 17 years of experience teaching Social Studies for Charlevoix Public Schools. He earned Master of Arts and Bachelor of Science degrees from Michigan State University, and is an alumnus of Coldwater High School in Coldwater, Michigan. Mr. Hawkins enjoys coaching basketball, and being an MHSAA-certified game official for volleyball, basketball, softball, and baseball. This year he will be teaching Civics/Economics, World Geography, and Civic Duty/Community Awareness.



Inga Marks

Inga Marks is a first year teacher in Kalkaska Public Schools. She previously taught in Grand Rapids and Chicago. Mrs. Marks attended Central Michigan University and graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Education degree in English. Mrs. Marks is a Northern Michigan native who is an avid reader and writer and will be teaching English 2, 3 and Honors English 3 for the 2017/2018 school year.



Taren Moses

Taren Moses is a Kalkaska High School graduate, who graduated from Western Michigan University with a Bachelor's Degree in Family Studies, with a focus in Social Psychology. Mrs. Moses has served as an Assistant Director at an Early Childhood Center in Kalamazoo for the past two and a half years. Prior to that, she worked as a Youth Conflict Resolution Specialists, where she taught and empowered elementary 4th and 5th graders to resolve conflicts. She has also volunteered at Gryphon Place as a Crisis Worker, where she has been trained in suicide prevention. Mrs. Moses is the Student Success Advisor at Birch Street Elementary.



Kris Rasmussen

Kris Rasmussen has been teaching English for the past eleven years at the high school and collegiate level. She graduated with a B.A. from Michigan State University in Humanities and received an M.A. in English Education from Ferris State University. She currently teaches English 10, Honors 10, AP Language and Composition, and Honors 12. She is involved in several professional organizations including serving on the board of the Michigan Council for Teachers of English and the Red Cedar Writing Project.



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Kristina Schlaud

Kristina Schlaud comes to Kalkaska Public Schools with twelve years of experience, all served in Saginaw Township Community Schools. Throughout her career, she has taught fifth, sixth, and eighth grades. Ms. Schlaud earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in Elementary Education from Saginaw Valley State University (SVSU), with minors in English and Social Studies. She also earned her Master's degree as a Reading Specialist through SVSU. Ms. Schlaud is thrilled to be a member of the fourth-grade team at Cherry Street Intermediate School!



Charles Sorentino

Mr. Charles (Chuck) Sorentino joined the Kalkaska Public Schools in the summer of 2017 as principal of Kalkaska High School. He began his career as a high school Social Studies teacher and baseball and hockey coach. He became a high school guidance counselor before entering school administration. He has served as an Athletic Director, Assistant Principal and middle and high school Principal of schools in the Detroit inner-city, Saginaw and Chicago, Illinois. Mr. Sorentino earned Bachelor of Arts Degrees in Education and Psychology with Secondary Social Studies Certification from the University of Michigan in 1977. He completed extensive graduate studies in Clinical Psychology at Eastern Michigan University along with an internship in a Detroit area psychiatric hospital in 1983. He received a M.S.A. in Educational Leadership from Madonna University in 1995 along with Secondary Administrative Leadership Certification. He is an avid sports person and enjoys a variety of sports that includes golf, hockey. During his lifetime, he has officiated over 3,000 high school and college baseball, football and basketball contests.

