

KINDERGARTEN



Mrs. Beimert

Mrs. Beimert comes to us with 15 years experience in early childhood and kindergarten teaching. She fosters a nurturing and successful environment in her classroom, and imparts a love for learning that benefits her students well beyond their time with her. Mrs. Beimert has been a key contributor to forming and launching the elementary program at NLA and we look forward to having her lead the Kindergarten team.

Mrs. Van Der Zanden

Coming to us from southern California, 21-year veteran teacher Mrs. Van Der Zanden was a 2018 finalist for the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching, and is currently co-authoring a book chapter, "Mathematical Modeling in the Kindergarten Classroom." We are impressed with her knowledge of the unique needs of kindergarteners and how she emphasizes social and emotional well-being just as much as academics.



1ST GRADE



Mrs. Knutson

Mrs. Knutson comes to us with 8 years of early elementary teaching experience and a wealth of knowledge on early literacy and curriculum. We have been impressed with her knowledge of the craft of teaching and deep understanding of how students learn best. Students in her class will make academic gains while having fun and feeling confident about themselves as learners.

2ND GRADE



Mrs. Stenson

With seven years of elementary teaching experience and degrees in Curriculum & Instruction and Reading, we are excited to have Mrs. Stenson become part of the NLA team! In addition to leading our *Read Well by Third Grade* initiative and leading 2nd grade, Mrs. Stenson is excited to help 2nd graders develop a growth mindset and "I can" attitude. We look forward to her innovative teaching practices that catch and keep the interest of her students!

3RD GRADE



Mrs. Cauley

Mrs. Cauley comes to NLA highly recommended with nine years teaching experience and two Minnesota Teacher of the Year nominations. We are happy to have this energetic and knowledgeable teacher on-board! NLA 3rd graders can look forward to innovative science and reading lessons and Mrs. Cauley is looking forward to sharing her love of geology with an afterschool Rock Club.

4TH GRADE



Mrs. Yaeger

Mrs. Yaeger has been a much-loved 6th grade teacher at NLA since 2008. She is excited to move into the 4th grade classroom as a Lead Teacher, helping to develop and launch a successful elementary program! Her fourth grade class will experience a kind, creative, innovative teacher who cares about her students, is well-versed in the content, and who equips students for success in their academic careers.

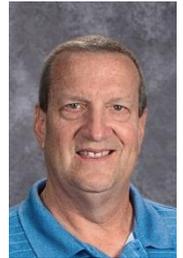
5TH GRADE



Mrs. Delvillar

"Mrs. DVD," as the NLA students affectionately call her, has been teaching at NLA since its inception in 1999. She has a gift for helping all students feel a part of the NLA community, filling-in gaps in their learning and helping all to succeed. She also loves the stage and some say she is as much a performer as a teacher, bringing lessons alive for her students. Mrs. DVD is looking forward to the inception of the elementary so she can continue to build a successful learning community at NLA.

Mr. Hassler



Mr. Hassler has been teaching 5th grade for 26 years and eleven of those have been at NLA. He is known for maintaining high expectations in his classroom and creating an environment where hard work is valued. Mr. Hassler loves teaching 5th grade math, but he is also a history buff and fancies himself a bit of a Civil War expert. Mr. Hassler is looking forward to the elementary expansion so he can get to know his future students before they join his classroom. .

K-8 CAMPUS DIRECTOR



Mr. Brandt

Mr. Brandt began teaching at NLA eight years ago, as the middle school Language Arts teacher. He became the middle school Building Lead in 2015 and will act as K-8 Campus Director beginning next year. Mr. Brandt has a wealth of knowledge in curriculum and instruction, guiding the K-12 staff in curriculum development and best practices. His favorite part of his job is being out and around the school, joining classrooms and hanging out with students in the halls and at lunch, valuing each student and their contribution to the community.

ELEMENTARY DEAN



Mrs. Peck

Mrs. Peck has been with NLA for nine years and has been teaching for 18 years. She has experience opening and expanding charter schools in Minneapolis and is excited to bring that experience to NLA's expansion. She is looking forward to partnering with students and families in their elementary education and loves NLA because the school values teaching the whole-person instead of focusing solely on academics.

SPECIAL EDUCATION COORDINATOR



Mr. Nesvold

Mr. Nesvold has worked at NLA since 2014. He is a wonderful coordinator of the Special Education teachers and paraprofessionals, working to meet the needs of diverse students with compassion and knowledge. He is excited for the elementary expansion so NLA can help families identify needs early and effectively, giving students the best chance at success in their educational careers.

FRONT OFFICE & WELLNESS COORDINATOR



Miss Cheri

Having been with NLA since the doors first opened, Ms. Cheri coordinated the front office at the middle school, then at the upper school before becoming our Student Wellness Coordinator in charge of physical and mental health triage at both locations. She has been instrumental in the growth and success of NLA throughout the years and is ready to aid in another successful expansion!