

Who's New at Central?

New Certified Staff at Central:

- **Dana Nasiakos** (Assistant Principal) is excited to be the new part-time Assistant Principal at Central School. Dana comes to Wilmette with a background in both elementary and middle school teaching, along with various leadership roles in both the Glenview and Northbrook districts where she taught for over 15 years. She most recently spent 9 years teaching 6th grade language arts at Northbrook Junior High School and previously taught 4th grade at Winkelman Elementary School in Glenview. Dana earned her Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education from the University of Illinois, then attained her Master of Education in Language, Literacy, and Specialized Instruction with a Reading Specialist certificate from DePaul University. She also received her Master of Arts in Educational Leadership from Northeastern Illinois University. When Dana isn't at school, you can find her spending time with her two children, reading, and enjoying time outdoors. She is looking forward to being part of the District 39 family and joining the wonderful staff at Central School!
- **Ashley Meneese** (4th Grade Classroom Teacher) is thrilled to be joining the outstanding D39 team. She is replacing Jackie Evenboer who left the district to be an assistant principal. Ashley has been committed to learning and growing as an educator since she began teaching. She earned a B.A. in English Literature from University of Wisconsin-Madison and a Master of Arts in Teaching Elementary Education from National-Louis University. Ashley started her career in Tampa, Florida as a 4th grade teacher for almost five years. Originally from the North Shore, Ashley and her husband decided to return "home." At that point, Ashley taught 1st grade for two years in Northbrook and developed a passion for social emotional development that coincides with rigorous academics, nurturing the whole child, and paying special attention to individual needs. In her spare time, Ashley loves visiting Chicago Botanic Gardens and watching her children play with all of their cousins! She is so happy to be home, and even more excited to find a new family at Central Elementary and within District 39, where her collaborative nature will be welcomed by esteemed colleagues.
- **Julia Mahowald** (Learning Behavior Specialist) is honored to be joining the remarkable D39 team. Her career has been following her passion, which is working with students who have special needs. Julie is a National Board Certified Teacher. She earned her BA at Central Washington University. She also has a MA in Special Education from Northeastern Illinois University and a Reading Specialist Degree from Dominican University. She started her career in Washington teaching middle school students. Most recently, she has been teaching students in grades 2-8 for the last six years in Chicago. She is specialized in differentiating reading, writing and math lessons. She also teaches students behavior management techniques and executive functioning skills. In her free time, Julia enjoys swimming and playing the piano. Julie looks forward to joining our collaborative community.
- **Hillary Rosenthal** (Speech Language Pathologist): is excited to join our team of specialists as a part-time speech teacher. Originally from the Chicago area, she

moved to New York to complete both her undergraduate and graduate studies where she earned both a BA and MA in speech pathology. After finishing school, she moved to Kansas City with her husband where she worked and provided speech therapy for four years to children of all ages. Last year, they decided it was time to come home and moved back to Chicago with their two children who are five and three years old. Having worked in both a private clinic and a school setting, Hillary has a vast range of professional experiences, providing services to children ages 18 months to high school. She is passionate about speech services including working with students, collaborating with other specialists, and partnering with parents. For fun, she enjoys baking and cake decorating, watching movies, and spending time with family and friends. She is looking forward to meeting all the students and their families.

- **Minji Kim** (Social Work Intern) is looking forward to completing her internship at Central School under the guidance of our social worker, Jami Jacobs. Minji received her BA from Loyola University where she is also pursuing her Masters in Social Work. She has experience at First Korean Presbyterian Church, Rice Children and Family Center, and Josselyn Center, working with diverse groups of children and assisting in various programs to enhance their social skills. Minji is bilingual in Korean and English and enjoys organization/event planning in her free time. Minji is looking forward to working with students at Central so they can perform academically and socially to their fullest potentials.

Familiar Faces in New Places:

- **Kathleen McCann** (English Language Teacher): Kathleen is our new English Language Teacher. Kathleen comes to us from Harper School where she taught last year in the district. Kathleen will be part-time at Central School and part-time at Highcrest Middle School. She is excited to be joining our Central School family.
- **Maia Snyder** (2nd Grade): Maia joined our staff last year as a 1st grade teacher. Because we are going down one section of 1st grade this year, Maia is moving up to 2nd grade to replace Debbie Crowley who recently retired. Maia is thrilled to join the 2nd grade team. Her new classroom is in the main hallway downstairs along with the other 2nd grade classes.
- **Barbara Ungar** (Technology Teacher): Many of you may recognize Barbara as our retired librarian. She is returning to work as our technology teacher to fill-in for Lauren Wysocke who will be on maternity leave this fall. Barbara is looking forward to returning to the Learning Commons that she helped to create. She will work alongside her colleague and friend, Linda Diekman.
- **Katie Clarke** (1st Grade Maternity Leave Substitute for Marie Ortmann) Katie Clarke is a familiar face around Central School. She's been a substitute teacher in the Wilmette elementary schools for the last nine years. She and her husband live in Wilmette with their three sons, all of whom attended District 39 schools. Before having children Katie taught kindergarten and first grade. She attended Williams College and received a Masters in Education from National Louis University.

** Please note that the above new staff members are certified teachers. New support staff members (including paraprofessionals) are still going through the interview process with the district office and are not listed above.
