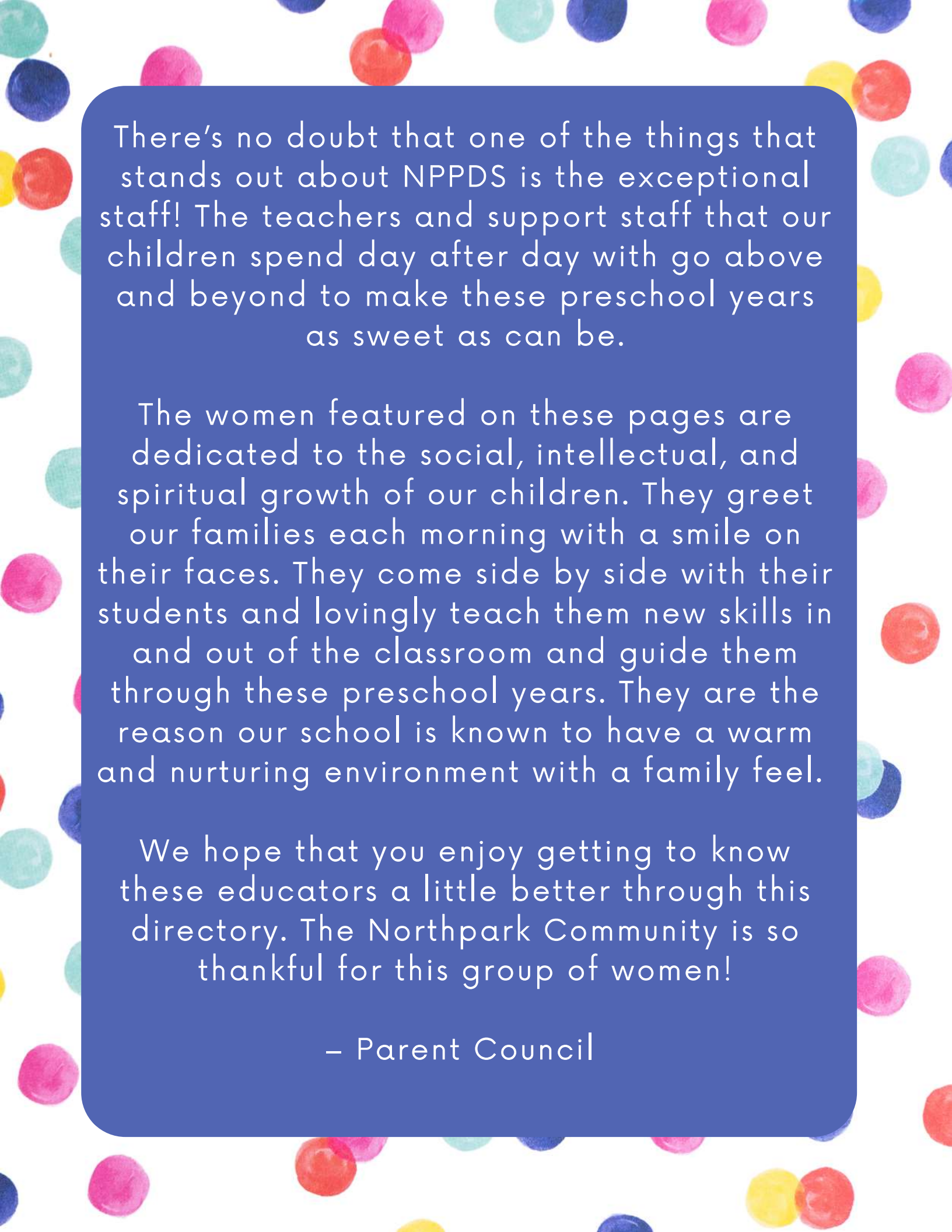




NORTHPARK PRESBYTERIAN
DAY SCHOOL

*Meet Our Teachers
and Staff!*
2022-2023



There's no doubt that one of the things that stands out about NPPDS is the exceptional staff! The teachers and support staff that our children spend day after day with go above and beyond to make these preschool years as sweet as can be.

The women featured on these pages are dedicated to the social, intellectual, and spiritual growth of our children. They greet our families each morning with a smile on their faces. They come side by side with their students and lovingly teach them new skills in and out of the classroom and guide them through these preschool years. They are the reason our school is known to have a warm and nurturing environment with a family feel.

We hope that you enjoy getting to know these educators a little better through this directory. The Northpark Community is so thankful for this group of women!

– Parent Council

Alex Bogan

Floater



Family:

My husband, Charlie, and I have four girls. Caroline (10) Ebby (8) and Charlotte and Georgia (4)

Ebby and the twins have all gone to NPPDS and we fell in love with it when Ebby was there- the sweetest school with the sweetest people.

About Me

Grew Up: Cleburne, Texas

College: Baylor and UTA

Years at NPPDS: First year!

What I do outside of school:

I spend my time hanging out with my family and friends and going to all of my girls' activities

Favorites:

Restaurant: Hillstone

Children's Book: Farmyard Beat

My twins loved that book- our family knows it completely by heart.

Quote/Verse: Matthew 17:20

Why I love NPPDS:

My favorite thing about NPPDS is what a loving, sweet school it is- it has been the most special little school to our girls and our family.

Suzanne Chatham

3's Teacher

Family:

I live with my husband of 32 years, Joe. He is a retired motorcycle cop with the Dallas Police Dept. My oldest son, Nick(28), is a musician and farmer in Hawaii, and my youngest son, Luca(25), is a professional runner and just got married Sept. 4. He and his wife, Bri, live in San Antonio.



About Me

Grew Up: Plano, Texas

College: Texas A&M University -
Whoop!

Years at NPPDS: 15 Years!

What I do outside of school:

I love to run, bicycle, travel by RV, read, and do things with my church and family.

Favorites:

Restaurant: El Vecino

Children's Book: One Wintry Night by Ruth Bell Graham

Part of the School Day: Circle time with the kids. I love to open their eyes to new things and see their eyes light up when they learn something new.

Katie Crews

4's Teacher

Family

Married to Corbin 35 yrs!
3 sons- Dutch, (married to Carey, geologist, lives in Denver), Cody, (married to Caroline, has baby Clara Kate, lives in Midland & works for Shell), Clay (youngest, lives in Midland, also works for Conoco) and a black lab Bella Rose



ABOUT ME

Grew Up: I grew up moving a lot! Then Waco and Dallas

College: Baylor University

Years at NPPDS: 9 Years!

What I do outside of school:

I am involved with and love Bible Study Fellowship, Council For Life, and family Longview lake time, and Midland grandbaby!

FAVORITES:

Restaurant: Amores and Penne Pomodoro

Children's Book: The Treasure Tree by Thomas Nelson publishers (A favorite family book!)

Part of the School Day:

Chapel and Class Circle Time

Verse: Philippians 4:8

Kelly Curtis

Toddler Teacher



Family:

I have been married to my high school sweetheart, Evan, for ten years now. We have two sons: Grayson will be in the Threes Class here at NPPDS, and Connor just turned eight months old. We also have two adorable cats, Ranger and Cowboy.

About Me

Grew Up: Dallas, Texas

College: University of Texas

Years at NPPDS: This is my second year!

What I do outside of school:

I mostly love spending time with my family. You can often find us gardening, watching F1 races, dining out, or exploring the Arboretum and Dallas Zoo.

Favorites:

Restaurant: My top three are Javier's, Hudson House, and Mariano's

Children's Book: My Garden by Kevin Henkes.

Part of the School Day: Story Time!

Getting to share books that I love with my students and watching how they connect with the stories is such a wonderful experience.

Quote/Verse: Jeremiah 17:7-8

Why I love NPPDS:

The teachers that I get to work with and the families that are part of this community are some of the nicest and most thoughtful people. It is such a warm, happy, and supportive place to be a part of.

Kara Dauterive

2's Teacher

Family:

I am married to my husband Paul for 21 years and we have two sons. Burke who is a sophomore at The University of Georgia, and Brady who is a Senior at Highland Park High School.

Why I love NPPDS:

The great group of women that I work with.



About Me

Grew Up: Baton Rouge, LA

College: LSU

Years at NPPDS: This is my Second Year

What I do outside of school: I love cooking and entertaining, Walking my dogs, watching my Senior play football on Friday nights, traveling to see my son at UGA, and spending time with my husband and friends.

Favorites:

Restaurant: Oishii and R&D

Children's Book: The Kissing Hand

Part of the School Day: Morning hugs from the kids!

Quote/Verse: Matthew 6:34

Janet Duval

2's Teacher

Family

Husband Greg and daughter Natalie (20)

Why I Love NPPDS:

The teachers I work with and the families. All are so sweet!



ABOUT ME

Grew Up: Denver & Dallas

College: Arizona State University and Texas Tech

Years at NPPDS: 14 Years!

What I do outside of school:

I love to garden, read books, and drink coffee

FAVORITES:

Restaurant: Hillstone

Children's Book: Clifford the Big Red Dog. Any Clifford, but my fav: Clifford's First Valentine's Day and any Biscuit story

Verse: I have several... this is hard.... Hebrews 6:19, Philippians 4:6 & 4:13

Parsi Grunewald

4's Teacher



Family:

In the photo, left to right - my future son-in-law, Chris, my daughter, Becca, my husband, Marcus, me, and my son, Jacob.

About Me

Grew Up: I was born in [redacted] and moved to Dallas when I was 12.

College: UTA

Years at NPPDS: 17 years!

What I do outside of school:

I love to walk outdoors, read, cook and listen to good music.

Favorites:

Restaurant: I don't really have a favorite restaurant, but I do love Mexican Food!

Children's Book: Stand Tall, Molly Lou Mellon, by Patty Lovell

Part of the School Day: Circle Time!
It's the best time to really get to know the kids, talk about our day ahead and do some fun teaching.

Quote/Verse: Psalm 46:1

Why I love NPPDS:

The kids, of course!

Meredith Haaker

Floater

What I do outside of School:

I substitute teach and love to travel, read, camp, work on my home renovation projects and garden.

Why I love NPPDS:

The People!



About Me

Grew Up: Dallas, TX

College: University of South Carolina

Years at NPPDS: This is my first year!

Favorites:

Restaurant: Hillstone

Children's Book: Giraffes Can't Dance by Giles Andreae

Quote/Verse: 1 Corinthians 16:14

Aimee Hardin

4's Teacher

Family

Husband Joe, Hudson is 10
and Drew, Brooks & Hannah
are 8

Why I Love NPPDS:

All the people (kids, families
and fellow staff members)!



ABOUT ME

Grew Up: Wichita, KS

College: Baylor University

Years at NPPDS: 6 Years!

What I do outside of school:

You can usually find me on
the field or court cheering
on my kids!

FAVORITES:

Restaurant: Hudson House

Children's Book: "You're All
My Favorites" by Sam
McBratney

Verse: 2 Corinthians 12:9

Part of the School Day:

Show and Tell because it's
so fun hearing the kids talk
about things they love!

Erin Harrison

3's Teacher



Family:

I'm married to my husband, Brian and we have 4 boys: Brady (16), Breck (14), Brooks (11) and Braxton (9)

About Me

Grew Up: Lake Highlands

College: University of Texas

Years at NPPDS: 4 years!

What I do outside of school:

Outside of NPPDS, you can find me exercising, reading or watching my boys play soccer games, guitar or at a local skatepark watching my kids skateboard.

Favorites:

Restaurant: Anything Tex-Mex!
I'm a simple kind of girl!

Children's Book: The Hello, Goodbye Window

Part of the School Day: I love art time during our PreK day! Love seeing the kids create, explore and get messy.

Quote/Verse: Romans 15:13

Why I love NPPDS:

I adore the community at NPPDS. Everyone is so kind, helpful, fun and happy.

Jamie Kaufmann

Interim Kindergarten Teacher

Family:

Husband: Russ, married 32 years. Daughters: Taylor (ICU nurse in Austin), Erin (business analyst for Capital One), Ashley (senior at Texas A&M)

Grandson: Dakota (18 months)

Pets: labs, Maya and Ellie

Why I love NPPDS:

The families. I love getting to know the families and love being part of an awesome teaching family.



About Me

Grew Up: I was born in Pueblo, Colorado and grew up in Moundridge, Kansas.

College: I got my Bachelor's Degree from Wichita State University and my Master's from Northern Arizona University.

Years at NPPDS: 18 Years!

Favorites:

Part of the School Day: Story Time! I love reading to the kids and watching their reactions to different stories.

Children's Book: Mortimer's Christmas Manger

Quote/Verse: Numbers 6:24-26

Kacy Kurek

2's Teacher

Family

My family includes my husband Jason, and two children, Annie (9), and JJ (8). We also have a new puppy named Winnie!

Why I Love NPPDS:

I am new to NPPDS this year but already love the people that I will be working with!



ABOUT ME

Grew Up: Katy, TX

College: Texas State University

Years at NPPDS: This is my first year!

What I do outside of school:

My children play lots of sports and most of my time is spent cheering at their games. I also love to read and take Pilates classes when I can.

FAVORITES:

Restaurant: Hudson House and Gloria's

Children's Book: The Day the Crayons Quit

Quote: "I can do all this through him who gives me strength."

Part of the School Day: I love watching children's imaginations go wild during centers and while they are playing together outside.

Hallie Lawrence

Music Teacher



Family:

Married 20 years to David with teenage sons, Sam (Jr) and Will (F) at HPHS. Two spoiled black labs.

About Me

Grew Up: Hilton Head Island, SC

College: Davidson College

Years at NPPDS: This is my 5th Year

What I do outside of school:

I love to read, walk and spend time with friends

Favorites:

Restaurant: Rex's

Children's Book: Ferdinand

Part of the School Day: I love getting kids out of the car in the morning and seeing how excited and happy they are!

Why I love NPPDS:

We have an incredible staff of women. They inspire me.

Christian Love

2's Teacher and Finance Manager

Family:

Husband Matt, son John (21), daughter Anne Elise (18), 2 dachshunds (Buddy and Ruby) and one cat (Stubbs)

Why I love NPPDS:

The precious kids and their wonderful families

Favorite Quote:

"Preach the Gospel at all times. Use words if necessary"-St. Francis of Assisi



About Me

Grew Up: Dallas, TX

College: University of Texas

Years at NPPDS: 16 Years!

What I enjoy doing outside of school:

Traveling, cooking, word games, spending time with the family

Favorites:

Part of the School Day: When the kids come into the room first thing in the morning and they are so happy to be at school. I love seeing their smiling faces!!

Children's Book: Pete The Cat: I Love My White Shoes

Restaurant: Oishii

Kathy Luedke

Discovery Teacher & Floater

Family

Husband Scott, Emily-23 and
Ben - 21

Why I Love NPPDS:

I love the sweet families



ABOUT ME

Grew Up: Outside of
Philadelphia

College: Southwest
Missouri State

Years at NPPDS: This is my
third year

What I do outside of school:
I enjoy cooking, Pilates and
doing puzzles

FAVORITES:

Restaurant: Blue Sushi

Children's Book: The Caboose
Who Got Loose by Bill Peet

Quote: "You never really understand
a person until you consider things
from his point of view... until you
climb into his skin and walk around
in it" Atticus Finch

Part of the School Day: I enjoy our
science experiment days in
discovery. The kids really enjoy
watching experiments and
predicting what will happen.

Brooke McCollum

Discovery Teacher



Family:

Lee (husband of 17 years) and sons
Henry (12) & Mills (9)

About Me

Grew Up: Dallas, TX

College: Wake Forest

Years at NPPDS: This is my 4th
year as a discovery teacher

What I do outside of school:

Reading, keeping up with
my boys, gardening when I
can, cleaning my house
when I must!

Favorites:

Restaurant: Loro

Children's Book: May I Bring a
Friend?

Part of the School Day: Drop Off is
the best. Love welcoming
your children to their school
day!

Quote/Verse: Zephaniah 3:17

Why I love NPPDS:

There is no place on earth like a happy pre-school. This
place is magic!

Linda McCollum

Floater

Family:

My husband, Allen. Three sons, their wives, two grandsons and two granddaughters.

Why I love NPPDS:

The teachers, Claire and Holly. They are friendly even to strangers.



About Me

Grew Up: Norman, Oklahoma

College: University of Oklahoma

Years at NPPDS: I was a substitute at NPPDS last year. This will be my first year as a full time assistant teacher

What I enjoy doing outside of school:

I love to cook, play with my grandsons, camp in our pop up camper and go to lunch with friends.

Favorites:

Part of the School Day:

Playing with the littles

Children's Book: If You Give a Mouse

a Cookie. It was the first book I used to teach literacy in my first class of second graders.

Restaurant: Pappadeaux's

Jane McCullah

2's Teacher

Family

Husband of 25+ years, Clint; Julia 21 year old senior at San Diego State University; Drew 18 year old senior at Jesuit; Kate 14 year old freshman at Bishop Lynch; Peaches 1 year old English Bulldog

Why I Love NPPDS:

The amazing staff and families! I was an NPPDS parent for 9 years and missed the school so much that I had to come back as an employee.



ABOUT ME

Grew Up: Huntsville, TX

College: SMU, where I met Clint

Years at NPPDS: This is my 9th year to work at NPPDS, but 6th year to have my own class.

What I do outside of school:

Driving Kate to soccer, working on rebuilding our home from the tornado, hanging out with Peaches, and I'm excited to work in my garden in the spring!

FAVORITES:

Restaurant: Cane Rosso or Mi Cocina

Children's Book: The Giving Tree

Verse: 'Love is patient and kind. (Corinthians "Love Verse")

Part of the School Day: Art, because I get to have 1:1 time with each child.

Holly McMahon

Office Manager



Family:

Husband - Jay
Son - Austin & DIL. Alice.
Grandchildren- Ben and Bowen. #3
due in December
Son - Brenton

About Me

Grew Up: Dallas, TX

College: Stephen F Austin

Years at NPPDS: 2 Years

What I do outside of school:

Spend time with family & friends. Love to read

Favorites:

Restaurant: Too many to name :)

Children's Book: I Love You
Forever

Part of the School Day: Morning
Carpool greeting the kids!!

Quote/Verse: "I can endure all
these things through the
power of the one who gives
me strength

Why I love NPPDS:

I love how it has such a family feel!

Becky Patrick

3's Teacher

Family:

Hubby Trez (almost 28 years), daughter Anna 23, son Brooks 22

Why I love NPPDS:

Supportive staff, director & families



About Me

Grew Up: San Francisco, followed Oklahoma City

College: Oklahoma State University

Years at NPPDS: 15 Years!

What I enjoy doing outside of school:

I enjoy playing Mahjong, fashion, design & exercise

Favorites:

Part of the School Day: Chapel & outside time watching the children run & play

Children's Book: The Giving Tree

Restaurant: Asian Mint & Il Bracco

Quote: "Helping others is the way we help ourselves" -Oprah Winfrey

Claire Pulfer

Director

Family

My husband Malcolm and our Greyhound Adi

Why I Love NPPDS:

The staff, families and all-round spirit of who we are



ABOUT ME

Grew Up: Reading, England

Years at NPPDS: Three Years

What I do outside of school:

Travel, brunch, trying new restaurants, walking

FAVORITES:

Restaurant: Parigi

Children's Book: "Guess How Much I Love You" by Sam McBratney

Quote: Luke 6:31 "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you"

Part of the School Day: Reading to different classes and interacting with all the kiddos!

Laurie Quinlan

Toddler Teacher & Floater



Family:

My 15 Year old Son, Cooper

Favorite Quote:

"No significant learning occurs without a significant relationship." -James Comer

About Me

Grew Up: Dallas, TX

College: Austin College

Years at NPPDS: This is my
4th Year

What I do outside of school:

Cooper's sporting events,
reading, and I love to play
spades with friends!

Favorites:

Restaurant: Al Biernat's North

Children's Book: "I'm taking a
Trip on my Train" by Shirley
Neitzel

Part of the School Day:

Playing with the toddlers
on the playground

Why I love NPPDS:

The children and their families as well as the camaraderie
among the staff

Mary Beth Rutledge

2's Teacher & Floater

Family:

I have two grown daughters and five grandchildren!

Favorite Quote:

Philippians 4:13 - "I can do all things through Him who strengthens me."



About Me

Grew Up: In Mississippi

College: Mississippi State

Years at NPPDS: This is my 3rd Year

What I enjoy doing outside of school:

I love spending time with my grandchildren, gardening, and baking.

Favorites:

Part of the School Day: Art!

Children's Book: The Little Blue Truck Series

Restaurant: Mi Cocina is my favorite for dinner and Bazille in Nordstrom's for lunch

Susan Scott

4's Teacher

Family

Husband Mike of 33 years.
Children: Laura (29, Curriculum Coordinator for grades 4-5 Mineral Wells), married to Joseph Sarah (26, Wylie Police Officer) Krista (21, Senior at Sam Houston St. Univ. - engaged) Trevor (13, 8th grade St Patricks)



ABOUT ME

Grew Up: Long Island, NY
and Conroe, TX

College: Stephen F. Austin
St. University

Years at NPPDS: Third Year

What I do outside of school:

Reading, creating, sewing, running yoga, traveling, Family time, Bike rides and sharing cross country practice with our son, shopping with our daughters, and of course spending time with my husband.

FAVORITES:

Restaurant: PF Changs, Jasons Deli, any good Mexican place. If I don't have to cook and clean up after it I am good going anywhere.

Book: I am a book lover. My all time favorite has to be "Little Women"

Part of the School Day: Group Time and Listening to their conversations

Kathlyn Sears

4's
Teacher



Family:

My husband Scott, daughter Sara, daughter Katie and her husband Matt

Favorite Quote:

"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." Philippians 4:13

About Me

Grew Up: Lafayette, La

College: LSU - Geaux Tigers!!

Years at NPPDS: This is my 5th Year

What I do outside of school:

I love spending time with family and friends, cooking, reading and playing Mahjongg

Favorites:

Restaurant: R&D Kitchen

Children's Book: I have a special place in my heart for Goodnight Moon since it was both of my daughter's favorite nighttime book.

Part of the School Day: I enjoy all of my time with the children each day, but I especially love when a child learns something new and is so proud of themselves. Priceless!

Why I love NPPDS:

Everything! I love everyone I work with each day and feel blessed by such wonderful families.

Molly Setnick

Music Teacher

Family:

Me, my husband Ben, our 15 year old daughter Edie, our 12 year old son Gray, and our dogs Paisley and Flip

Favorite Quote:

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding."



About Me

Grew Up: Honolulu, Hawaii

College: Baylor University

Years at NPPDS: 1 Year

What I enjoy doing outside of school:

Driving my kids around, hanging out with my mom, going to the movies with my husband.

Favorites:

Restaurant: Sasa Sushi

Children's Book: The Little Mouse, The Red Ripe Strawberry, and The Big Hungry Bear

Part of the School Day: Morning dropoff when I get to see all the sweet faces coming to school

Taylor Shah Ahmadi

Floater

Family

Aryon, my husband, Mack, our 2 year old son and Ted, our GSP puppy!

Favorite Quote

"Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it." - Proverbs 22:6



ABOUT ME

Grew Up: Kennesaw, Georgia

College: Kennesaw State University

Years at NPPDS: This is my first year at NPPDS. The past 14 years I have spent at a loving preschool back in Georgia!

What I do outside of school:

I love spending time with my family, decorating and reading.

FAVORITES:

Restaurant: You can find me at any Mexican restaurant!

Part of the School Day: I love story time! The gift of getting lost in a story is so special. I hope to share that with as many students as possible!

Children's Book: God sent an Angel Just for You by Paige DeRuyscher

Laurie Stevenson

3's Teacher & Floater



Family:

Husband Bruce and two daughters,
Emily and Kate

Favorite Quote:

"Do everything in love"
- 1 Corinthians 16:14

About Me

Grew Up: Houston, TX

College: University of TX

Years at NPPDS: Five Years

What I do outside of school:

I like to walk and ride my
bike. I also do yoga badly.
Movies are also fun

Favorites:

Restaurant: I like Asian Mint and
Bellagreen

Children's Book: Oh there are too
many!! Creepy Carrots and
Red come to mind

Part of the School Day: It's weird, but
I like carpool. I love seeing their
faces in the morning.

Why I love NPPDS:

The families are sooo nice and everyone likes to work
together, genuinely!!

Nita Stewart

IK Teacher Assistant

Family:

My husband, Pat. We have 2 children and 4 granddaughters.

Favorite Quote:

Be still and know that I am God. Psalm 46:10



About Me

Grew Up: Dallas, TX

College: Baylor University

Years at NPPDS: 13 Years

What I enjoy doing outside of school:
Spend as much time as possible w/family, reading.

Favorites:

Restaurant: SoCo

Children's Book: Love You Forever
by Robert Munsch

Part of the School Day: Helping individual students w/reading

Mary Kay Thomas

3's Teacher

Family

My husband Chris, my daughter Carolyn and her husband David and my son Reed, 4 dogs and 2 cats :)

Favorite Quote

"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." Phil 4:13



ABOUT ME

Grew Up: Austin, TX

College: Texas Christian University

Years at NPPDS: 22 Years!
But this is my 20th year teaching "3's"

What I do outside of school:

Spending time with family/friends, walking my dogs, traveling to Pagosa Springs, CO

FAVORITES:

Restaurant: The Porch, Fish City Grill, and Shady's

Part of the School Day: Circle time and the blessing before snack/lunch

Children's Book: I Love You Forever

Thing About NPPDS: The wonderful families/staff at the school, really feels like a "family" here!

Lindsay Thompson

Toddler Teacher



Family:

Kyle, Charlotte (9yrs), AnnaClaire (6yrs) and pup Pancho (1yr)

Favorite Quote:

"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope" Romans 15:13

About Me

Grew Up: Redmond, WA

College: University of WA
(GOOO Huskies!!!)

Years at NPPDS: This is my second year

What I do outside of school:

Workouts, my girls' activities, travel, time with friends

Favorites:

Restaurant: RM 12:20, Taverna

Children's Book: If You Give a Pig a Pancake (series), Superpigs, Dr. Seuss Books

Part of the School Day: Playing in the the classroom with the kiddos, dancing and bubbles

Why I love NPPDS:

The people: The other teachers are amazing and we have the sweetest families and kiddos.

Karie Welsh

Toddler Teacher & Floater

Family:

Michael(husband) married 18 years, Carter (daughter) 15, sophomore LHHS, McCrae (son) 12, 7th grade Shelton, Greer (son) 9, 3rd grade White Rock Elementary, Ollie (dog) and baby of the family :)



Why I Love NPPDS:

My coworkers and director! They are all amazing ladies.

Favorites:

Restaurant: Uchi, The Mexican, Bella Green

Children's Book: Guess How Much I Love You

Part of the School Day: First Thing in the morning when all the kiddos come in the classroom with a big smile and hug for me.

About Me

Grew Up: Asheville, NC

College: University of NC at Greensboro

Years at NPPDS: 4 Years

What I enjoy doing outside of school:

Spending lots of time with my children at their sporting events. I love taking walks in my neighborhood with Michael and Ollie.

Kristi Wilson

2's Teacher

Family

I have been married to Scott for almost 22 years. We have two beautiful twin daughters, Charlotte and Brynn. They just turned 17 years old in August.

Charlotte is a junior at the Episcopal School of Dallas and Brynn is a junior at Booker T. Washington HSVPA. We have 2 dogs and 2 cats.



ABOUT ME

Grew Up: Huntsville, Texas

College: Sam Houston State University

Years at NPPDS: 5 Years!

What I do outside of school:

I love to play tennis, read, play mahjong and spend time with family and friends.

FAVORITES:

Restaurant: Hillstone

Part of the School Day: I love welcoming everyone when they walk in the classroom in the mornings.

Children's Book: Goodnight Moon

Thing About NPPDS: Very hard to pick just one thing... but, I would say the children I get to meet

