
Introducing
TEAM MARK WEST CHARTER
2023-2024

#MWCS



SEVENTH GRADE

Hello, my name is Corissa Sunde, and I have been teaching at Mark West Charter School, for 19 years! I have 1 daughter named Jocelyn who is 24 years old. I enjoy bbqing with friends and playing with my dogs. I have a puggle named Indy and a German Shepard named Roscoe. My favorite thing to do is go to Maui, go snorkeling and look at pretty fish. I love teaching Math and Science and can't wait to start the year! Looking forward to having interesting discussions and listening to fun stories from all of you!!!

Corissa Sunde



SEVENTH GRADE

Hello, my name is Joe Carusone. I am the 7th grade English and History teacher at Mark West Charter School. I started my career in education in 1996.

I have two adult children, Gabriella and Jacob.

I look forward to yearly tropical vacations with my family and relaxing in my backyard.

My favorite things to do in my backyard are smoking delicious meats using my Traeger smoker and playing ping pong with my family and friends.

I enjoy working out, studying martial arts, and reading. I also really cherish coming home everyday and snuggling with my dog, Luigi!

Joe Carusone



EIGHTH GRADE

Hi! My name is Emily Dickey. This is my second year at Mark West Charter School. I teach 8th grade math and science at MWCS. I also teach a forensics elective, which is a fun blend with my former life as a first responder!

I have two kids (one is an alumnae of MWCS and one is a current student). Spending time with them is my favorite thing to do!

I love the students and staff at MWCS! I couldn't ask for a better work family and I so enjoy working with the kids; they make each day so much fun!

I am truly excited for the 23-24 school year!

Emily Dickey



EIGHTH GRADE

Hi, my name is Tricia Woods. I teach Language Arts and History at Mark West Charter School since 2011. The electives I am passionate about teaching include: photography, personal finance, and yearbook.

I started in my teaching career at Dover Middle School in Fairfield, CA. In 1995, I was hired by MWUSD; teaching first 5th or 6th grades at Mark West through 2005, and then 3rd through 6th at San Miguel till 2011.

I have a big family, a total of 6 kids. They bring me more joy than I ever imagined. Family time is my favorite time.

Young people are amazing at every age, but I greatly appreciate the curriculum at this level and the humor of middle school students.

Tricia Woods



Blended Services Teacher

Hello, my name is Evette Minor and I have been here at Mark West Charter School since 2019.

I started in education 16 years ago as a volunteer and eventually became employed by a school district in 2012.

I have been married for 25 years and have 4 children between the ages 24-16 years old.

I enjoy doing community work and seeing how I can bring about change in a positive way.

My favorite things to do are; spending time with family, travelling, sewing, going to museums, the beach and just being me.

Evette Minor



RSP / Blended Services Teacher

Hello! My name is Kara Lemieux and this is my fourth year at Mark West Charter. I been in the education field for over 15 years. I love the staff and students at MWCS!

I live with my husband Jason, one very energetic nine year old daughter named Alexis, and a very sweet and affectionate cat named Emilie.

Outside of teaching, I enjoy reading, volunteering, dancing zumba and spending as much time as possible outdoors in our beautiful county!

My favorite things are anything with peppermint and chocolate, music, coffee, and good mystery novels.

I am very excited for the new school year!

Kara Lemieux



Music Teacher

Hello, my name is Kara Kaufman, and I have been teaching music to TK-8th grades in the Mark West District for the past nine years. Previously, I worked in the Wright School District as a librarian, teacher's aide, after-school mentor, and literacy specialist. I have a B.A. in English, B.M. in music history, M.A. in English, and M.A. in teaching. I recently became certified in Orff Schulwerk Level I, an amazingly fun approach to teaching and learning music. I love to learn!

Reading and music are my passions! I have played violin in the Sonoma County Philharmonic, and I have danced with Bay Area Flash Mob. I have a six-year-old daughter, Jane, who also loves to sing and dance, and one cat, Izzie, who despises both. I look forward to another fabulous year of music!

Kara Kaufman



Home Study

Hello! My name is Doug Detrick. I work as a PE and Intervention Teacher at MWCS. My background in education goes back to 1993 when I worked in a K-4 classroom for SED (Severely Emotionally Disturbed) children. That wonderful job led me to get my teaching credential at Dominican College in San Rafael. I then taught both a K/1 and 5/6 combination class at Fremont Elementary here in Santa Rosa; currently called Santa Rosa Charter School for the Arts. In 1995 I was blessed to be hired here in the Mark West Union School District where I have taught 3rd, 4th, and 6th at John B. Riebli. Over the years at Riebli I have been Teacher in Charge (acting as Principal when Principal is off campus), coached Volleyball, refereed Volleyball, taught in the after school GATE program, and ran intramural sports during lunch recess. When I am not teaching I love spending my time with my two wonderful kids. We love water sports and anything that has us on the lake or outdoors. When my kids are busy, I enjoy working in the garage on cars.

Doug Detrick



Home Study

Hi! I'm Megan, MWUSD Independent Home Study educator. Some families teach their children at home & partner with a public charter. My job is to help families accomplish this goal successfully.

My teaching background includes: MWUSD math interventionist, classroom teaching in SF's Mission District, Middle School Academic Decathlon coaching/judging, and JV/Varsity high school swim coaching. I also enjoyed a unique experience as a math & reading tutor for dual-diagnosis incarcerated adults.

My education includes a teaching credential, M.Ed. and BA in English Literature from UC Davis.

In my free time, I enjoy cross country road trips with my partner and children. We have traveled to almost all of our country's states! This summer we learned all about fossils by digging for Trilobites and Knightia in Wyoming and Utah. I also love art projects, gardening, swimming, and visiting the beach.

Excited to meet & work with you!

Megan Bair



School Counselor

Hello, my name is Antonio Garcia and this is my fourth year at Mark West Charter School. Prior to joining the MWCS staff, I was a school counselor at another middle school for 8 years.

I have a four year old daughter (Luciana) and two year old son (Giovanni) who take up most of my time but also are the joy of my life. I enjoy hanging out with them as much as possible, they both love being outside at a park or near a pool.

My hobbies include hanging out with friends, family, going for a run, playing soccer, riding my bike, and eating cake.

I look forward to another fabulous school year at MWCS, the school community is a very special place to be, students I hope you are ready!

Antonio Garcia



Office Assistant/Blended Services Teacher

Hello, my name is Sherri Edwards and I have been at Mark West Charter School teaching electives for many years. I subbed in the MWUSD for 14 years before coming to work at MWC full time 2 years ago. I have Triplets, that are 21 years old, named Tyler, Sarah and Jessica. (PS they went to MWC & San Miguel) Some of my favorite things, besides my family, are the SF Giants and Disney. I am a HUGE Giants fan and I enjoy going to games as often as I can. I'm such a fan that I have a orange tabby cat named Willie Mays. Disney is my other love and I did work for Disney for 9 years when my kids were little.

Sherri Edwards



OFFICE MANAGER

Hello, my name is Nikki Dale, and I have been here at Mark West Charter School for 10 years and the Mark West District for 14 years. I truly enjoy working here at MWCS and consider the students and staff part of my family.

I have two children, Kylie and Rhett and a son-in-law, Jack. I would have to say that my greatest joy is spending time with my grandson, Rhys. I enjoy traveling, camping and reading a good book by the fire. My favorite things to do are spend time with family and friends.

Looking forward to a fabulous 2023-24 school year!!!

Nikki Dale



PRINCIPAL

Welcome! I have been at Mark West Charter School for 7 years. I truly enjoy working with the students, families and staff of MWCS.

I started in education, full time, in 1996. I have taught at the middle school level, elementary level and in special education. I coached volleyball and basketball at the high school and elementary levels.

I have 2 stepsons, Anthony and Stephen. I enjoy spending time with my 8 year old grandson, Jayden and 2 year old granddaughter Kensley. My favorite things to do are workout, read, and watch my favorite shows and sports teams.

I am looking forward to the 23-24 school year and to see all that MWCS students will achieve!

Michelle Franci

