

WTMC Cohort 4

# Julie Calkins



- Julie Calkins is the K-12 Science and Computer Science Coordinator for Laramie County School District 1 in Cheyenne, Wyoming. With over 30 years in education, she has served as a teacher, mentor, curriculum writer, academic coach, and administrator. She holds a B.A. in Biological Sciences from the University of Northern Colorado, an M.Ed. from the University of Houston, and principal certification from the University of Texas at San Antonio. Julie is a passionate educator, beekeeper, quilter, and volunteer. Most importantly, she cherishes her roles as a mother, grandmother, and friend.

# Sarah Hogan



- With 12 years of experience as a special education teacher across grades 2-12, I am currently in my first year as a district instructional facilitator for our special education department. I hold an undergraduate degree in elementary education and a master's in special education, both from the University of Wyoming. As a National Board Certified teacher and certified LETRS facilitator, I am dedicated to enhancing educational practices. Outside of work, I enjoy time with my joy-filled 5-year-old son, my husband of nine years, and our 13-year-old Basset Hound, Peach. I also have a passion for cooking and enjoying fantastic food.

# Diane Weller



- Born and raised in Laramie, Wyoming, it was Diane's goal to attend UW to study prerequisites to become a physical therapist. During her senior year of high school Diane was able to teach Spanish to second graders at Beitel Elementary. By the time the experience was over her career trajectory had changed, and she enrolled at UW with a major in elementary education. Now with nineteen years in the field of education, ranging from classroom teacher to instructional facilitator, Diane focuses on working with adult learners in order to support their self-efficacy and student growth.

# Charili Fluty



- My name is Charli Fluty and I am a physical education teacher at Powell High School. I moved to Powell in 2011 after graduating from the University of Wyoming. GO POKES!! The location of Saratoga (my hometown) in the Platte Valley made it easy to fall in love with the outdoors. I grew up camping, fishing, and hiking most every weekend. I still try to do those things with my family (husband, daughter, and dogs) as much as possible. I love Powell, teaching, and coaching, but most of all I love getting to spend my days with my incredible students!



# Revea Smith



- As a 5th grade teacher in Gillette, Wyoming, Revea Smith strives to ignite a love of learning and a genuine value of education into every person she meets. Mrs. Smith has a BA in Education and a Master of Science in ESL. Revea recently achieved National Board Certification while serving as the 2024 Teacher of the Year for the Campbell County School District. Currently, Mrs. Smith is working to expand Girls on the Run to Northeastern Wyoming. When she is not teaching, Revea enjoys traveling, kayaking, attending concerts, reading, and cuddling dogs.

# Kayla Freese



- I am a dedicated educator with 17 years of teaching experience, including 10 years in kindergarten, six years in first grade, and one year in second grade. I am passionate about early childhood education. I hold a master's degree in Curriculum and Instruction and am currently completing a second master's degree in Curriculum Design and Technology. I have lived in Wyoming my whole life and wouldn't want to call anywhere else home!

# Janet Mundt



- I received my Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education from Chadron State University in 1996. In January of 1996, I began working at St. Joseph's Children's Home in Torrington, Wyoming. What was supposed to be a temporary job, turned out to be a lifelong career. Our students have endured significant trauma, and most have been unsuccessful in public schools. I am committed to helping students become the best versions of themselves by creating an engaging and inclusive learning environment where all students experience success.



# Jillian Ferguson



- My entire career has been spent in Wyoming. I grew up in the Big Horn Basin, and have taught in Rawlins, Lovell, and Powell. My husband and I have two boys, two rambunctious dogs, and lots of weeds to pull. This is my 21st year in education. I have taught Deaf Education and every elementary grade except 2nd. During my time in 1st grade, I have hosted four student teachers.

# Tiffany Hering



- Tiffany Herring is a dedicated special education teacher with a master's degree in Special Education and a strong background in supporting diverse learners. Before becoming a certified educator, Tiffany gained valuable hands-on experience as a paraprofessional, working closely with students with disabilities to foster their academic and personal growth. Passionate about inclusive education, Tiffany is committed to creating a supportive and engaging learning environment where all students can thrive.

# Dana Romriell



- I grew up in Lovell and will always consider Wyoming my home, regardless of where I wander. I love our state the values it represents. I raised 9 children and when the youngest went to school, returned to school myself to complete my degree. I am a passionate, dedicated Special Education Teacher. I always knew I wanted to be a teacher, but having a child with special needs inspired me to specialize. I am a firm believer that any child can learn anything with enough time, patience, and effort. I am blessed to do what I love every day.

# Julia Fineran

- I was born and raised in Southern California, but I have lived in Wyoming for about 30 years. I have been married to my husband Jeremy for six years, and we have four teenagers (we each had two kids from our first marriage). I started my teaching career in Gallup, New Mexico; I taught there for a year and a half. I then moved back to Wyoming and taught high school and 8th grade English in Baggs for 16 years. I have been teaching Social Studies at Victory High School in Rawlins for two years. I have been taking on more challenges recently, and I have enjoyed the ways they have helped me grow as an educator.

# Sami McRae



- My name is Sami McRae. I am currently a second grade teacher at Gannett Peak Elementary in Lander, WY. I grew up in Wyoming and attended the University of Wyoming, graduating in 2009. I obtained my Masters in Curriculum and Instruction in 2011 through Grand Canyon University. I am passionate about helping students be their best selves while encouraging them to do their best in all areas of their lives. I have a passion for helping colleagues and student teachers as well as helping students learn to feel confident in math, writing and reading.



# Kelli Orr



- As a passionate educator with over 20 years of experience, I am committed to fostering supportive and dynamic learning environments for students and colleagues alike. I specialize in all things ELA and prioritize hands-on, student-centered instruction that encourages critical thinking and creativity. I believe in lifelong learning and continuously seek professional development to enhance my teaching practices. My goal is to inspire students to not only excel academically but also to become confident, empathetic individuals ready to contribute positively to society. I value building strong relationships with students, parents, and colleagues to create a collaborative and inclusive classroom atmosphere.

# Leslie McKlinskey

- Leslie McLinskey is the Secondary English/Language Arts teacher, teaching students in grades 7 through 12, and is the National Honor Society sponsor at Encampment K-12 School. She grew up in the midwest, attended Grinnell College, and has lived and taught in Encampment for over twenty years. Her recent professional development has been focused on Social-Emotional learning. She is also a certified yoga instructor and enjoys outdoor adventures with her family in the mountains and on the water.

# Jessica Hoffman

- My name is Jessi Hofmann. I have been teaching in Rawlins, Wyoming for 11 years and have shared those years between 1st and 2nd Grade. I have 2 children and 2 Siberian Huskies. In my free time, I enjoy playing softball and golf.

# Michelle Trahnstrom

- Hello! My name is Michelle Trahnstrom. I have been teaching for 30 years in South Carolina, Missouri, Colorado, and Wyoming. I have taught Kindergarten through 5th grade, except first. I love watching students discover the world around them and discover new concepts that they can accomplish. I am excited to continue my learning journey!

# Samantha Worden

- I am a sixth-year teacher and a doctoral candidate in Education at the University of Wyoming. My research focuses on gamification and how it can be used to increase student engagement and motivation. With a background in instructional design and classroom teaching at Rock Springs High School, I strive to blend practical experience with research to create meaningful, game-based learning experiences for students.