



Alonso High School Magnet (IB) 9th Grade Instructional Staff

Lisa Leal – Alonso Pre-IB English Instructor



Lisa Leal graduated from Florida State University with Bachelor of Science degrees in both Marketing and Multinational Business Operations. She became a member of the Alonso High School faculty in 2014, teaching English and Reading for grades 9, 10, and 11. Most recently, she has taught Advanced Placement English Language and Composition (11th grade) as well as Writing I and Semantics and Logic (9th grade). Mrs. Leal moved to Tampa in 1993 with Bank of America, married a Tampa native, and raised a son who is an IB graduate and now attends Florida State University. She had a great first year as a pre-IB teacher, exploring exciting texts and novels with her students.

Adriana Lores Gonzalez – Alonso Pre-IB Spanish Instructor



Adriana Lores is thrilled to be in her 14th year of teaching. She is a dedicated bilingual teacher with a genuine interest in creating a better world through Education. She graduated with a Bachelor of Science in English Education degree from Vigo University, Spain in 2003. In 2009 she obtained a master's degree in Foreign Language Education from Alcala de Henares University, Spain. Her teaching career began at an International Baccalaureate School in Madrid. After six years she moved to California where she taught Spanish to Heritage Speakers. Most recently, she taught English Language Arts for Hillsborough County Public Schools before having a very successful first year as part of our inaugural IB faculty. In her free time, she enjoys exercising, cooking, reading, and spending a day at the beach with her family.

Melinda Zeliff – Alonso Pre-IB German Instructor



Mindy Zeliff has a B.A. and M.A. in German from Florida State University and has extensively studied abroad in Germany and Austria. She has taught German as a foreign language at FSU, USF, Haines City IB, and Alonso High School over the past 13 years, and is passionate about hands-on activities in the World Language Classroom. Mrs. Zeliff is also an avid runner, vegetarian cook, and hiker who volunteers with the school Cross Country and Track Teams most seasons.

Lea Mahoney – Alonso Pre-IB American Government & World History Instructor



Ms. Mahoney feels very fortunate to be the ninth grade IB social studies teacher at Alonso High School! She was born in Massachusetts but attended high school in Tampa where she received her IB Diploma. She attended Florida Gulf Coast University and received her bachelor's degree in secondary education. Since then, she has enjoyed teaching history at the high school level, most recently at Dunbar High School in the Ft. Myers area before joining the Alonso IB team in 2020.

Nicole Richards-Works – Alonso Pre-IB Biology Instructor



Mrs. Works is originally from Pennsylvania, but believes she is a Floridian native at heart. She received her bachelor's degree in Biology with minors in Geoscience and Chemistry from Indiana University of Pennsylvania in 2004. She earned her master's degree in Secondary Science Education from Old Dominion University in 2011. She taught in Virginia at a middle school for 5 years and in 2011 she started teaching at King High School in the IB program. She has been teaching Pre-IB Biology and Pre-IB Chemistry for the past nine years at King High School before opening the Alonso IB program last year.

Matthew LaRosee – Alonso Pre-IB Algebra 2 Instructor



Mr. LaRosee is graduate of Keene State College, in Keen New Hampshire, where he majored in Physical Education and minored in Mathematics Education. Upon graduating in 1997 he moved to Florida and got his first job teaching Physical Education at St. Joseph Catholic School in Winter Haven. In 2000, he moved to Hillsborough County where he has taught math at Progress Village, Martinez and most recently Davidsen Middle School. He has spent thirteen years at Davidsen but was very excited to start the next chapter of his teaching career at Alonso High School and had a great 2020-21 school year as part of the Alonso IB faculty.

Jill Burns – Alonso Pre-IB Inquiry Skills Instructor



Jill Burns began her teaching career with Hillsborough County Public Schools at Monroe Middle School in 2002 before taking over and building the journalism program at her Alma Mater Robinson High School in 2003. In addition to building a nationally recognized journalism program, Burns worked with faculty and families as Robinson to promote inclusion and integration for all students as the campus began their journey the become the third IBO school in Hillsborough County. The faculty and staff recognized her as the 2015 Teacher of the Year. In 2016, Burns transferred to Hillsborough High School where she collaborated with both the journalism program and AP Language instructors before taking over the AP Language course in 2018. Most recently, school curriculum leaders selected Burns to be part of a three-person team to spear-head the Pre-AP English program for Hillsborough High School. Burns earned her BA in Mass Communications from Florida Southern College in 2000 and has been instrumental in launching the Alonso IB program as our Inquiry Skills teacher.

Diana Beauregard – Alonso IB School Counselor



Mrs. Beauregard is originally from the suburbs of Cleveland, Ohio and graduated from Xavier University in Cincinnati, Ohio in 2007 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology and a minor in Theology. She received her Master of Arts degree in Counselor Education from the University of Central Florida in 2009. Later that year she began her School Counseling career. She has served as a School Counselor at an IB World School in Pinellas County, a College & Career Counselor and Guidance Department Head in Hillsborough County before joining the Alonso Raven family as a School Counselor. She will be working with all of our incoming Magnet/IB students, in addition to a handful of traditional students. She will continue working with our IB students during their four years at Alonso. As the program grows, she will become a fully dedicated IB School Counselor. In her free time, Mrs. Beauregard enjoys spending time with her husband and two children. She is an avid runner who has competed in a variety of races ranging from marathons to 5K's. She also enjoys spending time at the beach, attending concerts, and watching Netflix.

