Employee Bios 2020-21

Traina

Marcos Gomez- Marcos will be teaching 7th and 8th grade science at Traina this year. He grew up in Oakley and continues to live there. He studied and graduated with a BS in Kinesiology exercise science at Sacramento State University. After substituting for a couple of years, he decided he wanted to be a teacher. He got his credential to teach science and taught Living Earth for the past 2 years at Heritage High School in Brentwood, California. In his spare time, he enjoys going to the gym, playing basketball, and spending time with friends and family.

Michelle Coltharp – Michelle will be an RSP floater, teaching Resource at **Monticello**, **Traina, and Hawkins** this year. She grew up in Tracy and actually attended Monticello and Jefferson School from 3rd-8th grade. Later, she attended San Francisco State University, where she graduated with a BA in Child Development, Early Childhood Education. She then attended Teachers College of San Joaquin where she received her Education Specialist Credential. Michelle worked as an RSP teacher in the Lammersville school district for the past 3 years, but is very excited to return home to Jefferson. When she isn't teaching, she loves spending time with her family, camping, and refinishing furniture.

Renuka Nair - Renuka is our new math teacher for 7th and 8th graders at Anthony Traina school this year. She started her career as a Chartered Accountant. After working for multiple years in the corporate world, she decided to pursue her passion for teaching. She started her teaching profession by helping students with after school math. She holds a masters in finance and has also worked as a substitute teacher for 4 years.When she isn't teaching, she loves traveling to new places, spending time with her family, and reading.

Hawkins

Joanna Diong – Joanna will be teaching Science and History at Hawkins this year. She grew up in Tracy and went to Tracy High from 9th-12th grade. Later, she attended Arizona State University, where she graduated with a BAE in Educational Studies. She discovered her passion for teaching when she started working with children with disabilities after high school. When she is not teaching, she enjoys traveling with her husband and two kids.

Stacie Infante – Stacie will be teaching 7th and 8th grade math at Hawkins this year. She grew up in Winton and attended CSU Stanislaus for a BA in Sociology with a concentration in juvenile delinquency. She is currently finishing up her Master's in Sociology at CSU Sacramento. Three years ago she joined our district as a substitute teacher and has held long term math positions with us. Her thesis work on growth mindset along with work experience as a substitute teacher

influenced her decision in becoming a teacher. In her down time, she enjoys outdoor activities such as hiking, camping, and kayaking.

Bree Moruzzi - Bree will be teaching SDC 3-5 at Hawkins this year. She grew up in southern California and went to the University of Michigan for her BA in Elementary Education with a focus on Mathematics and Art. Following her BA, Bree went to Cal State Fullerton to earn a second credential in Special Education. For her first 3 years of teaching, she taught as a special education teacher for students with Emotional Disturbance in both a non-public as well as the school district she grew up in Rialto, California. Her final year with Rialto Unified, she taught 2nd grade as a general education teacher before moving across the country to New York where she taught in a Kindergarten inclusion classroom. When she isn't teaching, she enjoys spending time with her family, playing sports, and going to Disneyland when open.

Tori Cameron - Tori will be teaching 7th/8th grade Core at Hawkins this year. She moved to Tracy in 7th grade and actually attended Hawkins for both 7th and 8th grade. Working as a Behavior Technician with Therapeutic Pathways for 7 years helped her to realize her passion for teaching. She transferred from Las Positas to Stanislaus State where she received her BA in Liberal Studies and her Multiple Subjects teaching credential. When she isn't teaching she enjoys spending time with her family, singing, and eating good food!

Jillian Bessette – Jillian will be teaching Kindergarten at Tom Hawkins this year. She was born and raised in Tracy and attended Hawkins from 1st through 8th grade. Later, she attended the University of Arizona where she graduated with a Bachelors in Elementary Education. She continued her educational career and obtained a master's degree in Special Education at the University of Arizona. When she isn't teaching, she loves to be out on the boat, shopping and spending time with her family and friends.

Jefferson

Josh Dunford - Josh will be teaching music at Jefferson School and Tom Hawkins. He grew up in San Mateo, California and graduated from University of the Pacific in 2020 with a B.M. in Music Education. Throughout his music career, Mr. Dunsford has studied with Trombone with instructors Kevin Gallagher, Ryan Black, James Dubberly and Steve Perdicaris. Josh has been involved in teaching music for many years, starting out by leading songs at a cub scout day camp in 2008. Josh has taught private lessons to students ranging in age from four years old to young adults. He has also taught in the classroom to elementary general music students, middle school orchestra and band, as well as high school choir, orchestra, and band. Josh has also been active in the bay area music scene. He has had opportunities to perform with groups such as Avance, N'Rumba Orquesta, Horns of Plenty, Pop Rocks, The LA Allstars, the Mike

Galisatus Big Band, the Los Gatos Saratoga Big Band, Marjikeze, and has been a sub and ringer for high school music productions and many other groups. He has performed with Carmen Bradford, Greg Tardy, Carlos Carlo, Paul Young, Dee Daniels and many others. When he is not teaching, Josh enjoys reading, road trips, and spending time with his family and friends.

Cody Weinzheimer - Cody will be teaching PE at Hawkins and Jefferson this year after teaching at Terrace Middle School in Lake County. He grew up in Patterson, California, and attended Northwestern Oklahoma State University for his BA in Health and Sports Science. Cody spent some time as a personal trainer in Scottsdale, Arizona after college. He received his teaching credential and Masters in Education from National University. When he is not teaching, he enjoys the outdoors, working out, and reading.

Monticello

Yvonne Dias - Yvonne will be teaching Kindergarten at Monticello this year. She grew up throughout the Central Valley, completed 7th-12th grades in Modesto, and moved to Tracy 9 years ago. She attended Western Governors University where she completed her BA in Interdisciplinary Studies K-8 and got her Multiple Subject teaching credential. While completing her credential program, she started substitute teaching in Jefferson School District in February 2018. She is married and has 2 daughters that attend Traina Elementary. When she isn't teaching, she loves spending time with her family and traveling.

Special Ed

Cecilia Martinez – Cecilia will be providing speech therapy services at **Traina** this year. She grew up in Oakland, California and moved to Tracy, specifically in the Jefferson school district, 17 years ago so that her three children could attend Traina. She attended Utah State University, where she graduated with a BS in Communicative Disorders and Deaf Studies. She then pursued her Masters of Science in Speech Language Pathology at Nova Southeastern University. While working towards her Master's, Cecilia worked in the Jefferson School District as a licensed Speech Language Pathology Assistant and prior to that she had a career in telecommunications with AT&T. When she isn't helping children with speech, she loves being with her family, researching her family's genealogy, and traveling.