

## Welcome Back to School

2022-23

As Superintendent of Schools, I would like to welcome you to the 2022-23 school year! I am looking forward to seeing our returning students and meeting those who are new to us. Please join our Board of Education and Administrative Team in welcoming our new teachers:

New to Northwestern High School:

**Miranda Gordon** ~ High School Art, replacing Mr. Bucci who resigned. Ms. Gordon is a recent graduate of Central Connecticut State University with a BA in Art Education. She is a familiar face because she completed her student teaching under the guidance of Ms. Kathy Cady and Mrs. Christine Mitchell.

**Mary Zaborowski** ~ High School English, replacing Mrs. Sarah Machowski who retired. Ms. Zaborowski is a recent UCONN graduate with a MA in Curriculum and Instruction.

**Lexi Munger**: ~ High School English, replacing Ms. Stephanie Brody who resigned. Ms. Munger has a BA in English Secondary Education from Keene State College. She is also familiar to us because she filled in for Ms. Brody at the end of last school year.

**Joshua DeCerbo**: ~ High School Science, replacing Mrs. Ingrid Burke who retired. Dr. DeCerbo has a BA in Molecular Biology from Colgate University, an MA in Curriculum and Instruction from the University of St. Joseph, a Sixth Year Degree from UCONN, and a Doctorate in Biomedical Sciences from UCONN. Dr. DeCerbo will be the new Science Department Chairman.

**Kristin Bailey**: ~ High School Science, replacing Ms. Perga who retired. Ms. Bailey has a BA in Biomedical Science from Quinnipiac, an MA in Education from the University of St. Joseph, and is working on her Doctor of Education in Curriculum, Teaching, Learning, and Leadership from Northeastern University. Ms. Bailey is also a graduate of Northwestern High School.

**Emily Stross**: ~ High School Social Studies, replacing Mr. Ross who retired. Ms. Stross has a BA in History Secondary Education from Southern Connecticut State University.

New to Northwestern Middle School:

**Jennifer DeGrave**: ~ Middle School Mathematics, replacing Mr. Chip Morris who retired. Mrs. DeGrave has a BS in Education and a MS in Elementary Mathematics from Central Connecticut State University. She will be serving in the capacity of Math Interventionist.

**Sarah Westmoreland:** ~ Middle School Special Education FLEX, replacing Mr. Morus who resigned. She holds a BA in Music Education from Wheelock College and an MA in Special Education from Westfield State University.

**Thomas Scarangelo:** ~ Middle School Special Education, replacing Mrs. Sue Sokolow who retired. Mr. Scarangelo has a BA in History Secondary Education from Grand Canyon University and a MA in Special Education from Quinnipiac University. He is also a Gilbert/Northwestern (GN) football coach.

We would also like to welcome a long-term substitute teacher:

**Isabella Corradi** ~ Middle School Reading, filling in for Mrs. Krista Brazie who is out on maternity leave. Ms. Corradi holds a BA in English and an MA in Curriculum and Instruction from Southern Connecticut State University.

**Mr. Jim Mann**, who filled in for Mrs. Searson last year, will be back in a new role. He will be a Social Emotional Learning and Support Specialist. This is an American Rescue Plan Grant funded position. He will work with 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students to foster the development of skills associated with recognizing, understanding, and regulating emotions. He will also assist 7<sup>th</sup> graders with organizational skills and offer academic support to students.

Shared Services has hired a new School Psychologist to replace Ms. Hayley Labrecque. Megan Ricci will be joining Northwestern. She graduated from Iona College with a Master's Degree in School Psychology.

Together with our administrative team, I sincerely welcome our new staff members. We believe our students will enjoy their learning experience in their classrooms.

Sincerely,

Judith A. Palmer