

XIS Faculty & Administration 2025-2026



Inna Klein
Head of School

Education: MA School Administration – Grand Valley State University, Michigan; BA – Grand Valley State University

Certifications: School Administrator Certificate – Michigan
Department of Education; Professional Teaching Certificate:
Elementary Teaching (K-8), ESL (K-12), Spanish (6-12) – Michigan
Department of Education

Experience as an educator: 20 years

Home Country: USA

Cal Stuart

Secondary School Principal



Education: MA International Education and Schooling Development - University of New England, Australia; BA - Bachelor of Education Secondary (Physical Education & Science)

Certifications: Certificate of International School leadership - Principal Training Center for International School Leadership

Experience as an educator: 17 years

Home Country: Australia

Mary Collins

Elementary School Principal



Education: BA (Hons.) English and History - Northumbria University (UK); MA TEFL - University of Reading (UK)

Certifications: PGCE - UK; RSA/Cambridge Diploma in the Teaching of English as a Foreign Language

Experience as an educator: 34 years

Home Country: UK

 <p>Jacob Wagner IB Diploma Coordinator</p> <p>Education: Master's in education (Wilkes University); Professional Teaching Certificate, BA Mathematics, & Minor in Music Technology (Susquehanna University)</p> <p>Certification: K-12 Mathematics</p> <p>Experience as an educator: 15 years</p> <p>Home Country: USA</p>	 <p>Dr. Laura Bell MYP Coordinator / English L & L Teacher</p> <p>Education: Master of Teaching - Sage Graduate School; Bachelor of Arts - University at Albany; Ed.D. Leadership and Learning in Organizations – Vanderbilt University</p> <p>Certifications: K-6 Elementary Education and 6-12 English - Florida Department of Education</p> <p>Experience as an educator: 15 years</p> <p>Home Country: USA</p>
 <p>Fey Reynolds Elementary School Counselor</p> <p>Education: MA Counselor Education - University of Montana; MA Global Youth Development - University of Montana, BFA Graphic Design - Montana State University</p> <p>Certifications: School Counseling Educator License - State of Montana, English 6-12 Teaching License - Hawai'i Teacher Standards Board, National Certified Counselor</p> <p>Experience as an educator: 10 years</p> <p>Home Country: USA, Israel</p>	 <p>Paula Zhou Secondary School Counselor</p> <p>Education: MSc Psychology and Neuroscience of Mental Health, King's College London University of South Wales (Glamorgan) BA (Hons) Criminal Justice</p> <p>Certifications: Teaching Diploma in Mindfulness Based Cognitive Therapy, The University of Oxford Mindfulness Foundation Teaching Diploma in Montessori Pedagogy - Early Childhood - Montessori Centre International (London), Teaching Diploma in Montessori Pedagogy Infants and Toddlers - North American Montessori Centre, Teaching Diploma in Montessori Pedagogy Early Childhood - North American Montessori Centre, Parent Effectiveness Training Instructor - Gordon Training International, Teacher Effectiveness Training - Gordon Training International, Non-Violent Communication - Centre for Montessori Studies</p> <p>Experience as an educator: 27 years</p> <p>Home Country: UK</p>

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James Gleeson
IT Coordinator / Communications Coordinator

Education: M.Ed. International Education – Framingham State University; BA History and Politics - University College Cork, Ireland

Certifications: Post Graduate Diploma in Education – University College Cork, Ireland; CELTA - Cambridge English Teaching Qualification

Experience as an educator: 19 years

Home Country: Ireland



Samantha Nellett
PYP Coordinator

Education: M.Ed. Education Leadership–American College of Education, M.Ed. Disciplinary Studies–SUNY Buffalo State College, Bachelors of Science in Special Education–Illinois State University

Certification: Learning and Behavior Specialist Teaching License– Illinois Department of Education; International School Management and Leadership Certificate – AAIE Institute, Responsive Classroom

Experience as an educator: 12 years

Home Country: USA



Amrisha Bissoon
Grade 4 Teacher

Education: BA Education – University of the Free State, South Africa

Certifications: TEFL – TEFL Professional Development Institute (USA) ; P4C Facilitator - International Council of Philosophical Inquiry with Children; Teaching Students with Learning Disabilities - UNICAF University, International Organization Management- University of Geneva(in progress).

Experience as an educator: 11 years

Home Country: South Africa



Mario Buffalini
Grade 1 Teacher

Education: MAT - Secondary Education - Liberty University, BA - International Studies and Spanish - Allegheny College, TEFL of 555 hours - Volunquest Certification Program

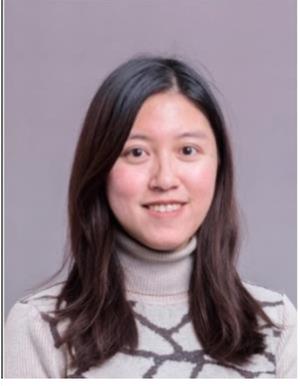
Certifications: Spanish PreK-12 Teaching License – Virginia Department of Education

Experience as an educator: 9 years

Home Country: USA

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 <p>Vickie Cai Elementary School EAL Teacher</p> <p>Education: M.Ed. International Education - Framingham State University; BA Social Work - Jimei University; M.Ed. English Language Acquisition – Jimei University</p> <p>Certification: TESOL certificate – ITTT; Teaching Certificate - English Language Teaching (primary and junior middle school); Teaching Certificate - Primary Math and Chinese - Ministry of Education Administration of China</p> <p>Experience as an educator: 19 years</p> <p>Home Country: China</p>	 <p>Amy Chen Elementary School Mandarin Teacher</p> <p>Education: M.Ed. Teaching Chinese as a Foreign Language Guangxi Normal University; BA Teaching Chinese as a Foreign Language-Fujian Normal University</p> <p>Certification: Teacher Qualification Certificate(National) - Ministry of Education Administration of China</p> <p>Experience as an educator: 6 years</p> <p>Home Country: China</p>
 <p>Flora Chen Elementary School Mandarin Teacher</p> <p>Education: M.Ed. International Education - Framingham State University; BA Teaching Chinese as a Second Language – Beijing Language and Culture University.</p> <p>Certification: Teacher Qualification Certificate(National) - Ministry of Education Administration of China</p> <p>Experience as an educator: 15 years</p> <p>Home Country: China</p>	 <p>Julie Ciobanu Pre-K Teacher</p> <p>Education: PGCE - University of East London & BSC Anthropology - University of East London</p> <p>Certification: PGCE & CELTA</p> <p>Experience as an educator: 23</p> <p>Home Country: UK</p>

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<p style="text-align: center;">Mike Davis Elementary School Physical Education Teacher -- Head of Department PHE</p>  <p>Education: B.Sc - University of Guelph - Human Kinetics</p> <p>Certification: Teaching Certificate - Moreland University - Physical Education K-12</p> <p>Experience as an educator: 19 years</p> <p>Home Country: Canada</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Wilhanlie de Beer Grade 1 Teacher</p>  <p>Education: B.Ed Foundation Phase Education; B.Ed Honours in Learning Support - University of Pretoria, South Africa. FET Dance Instruction - Dance Academy of South Africa.</p> <p>Certification: South African Council for Education (SACE), British Columbia (Canada) Teaching Certification.</p> <p>Experience as an educator: 5 years</p> <p>Home Country: South Africa</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Prof. Joseph De Silva Elementary School ELA Teacher</p>  <p>Education: PhD in management, MA in Education, Certificate of International Education: IB Primary Years Programme</p> <p>Certification: Post Graduate Diploma in Education and Teaching; IB educator certificate in Teaching and Learning; STEM certification; World Certified Professional (WCP) in Education and Training Management</p> <p>Experience as an educator: 9 years</p> <p>Home Country: New Zealand</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Vanya Duncan Librarian</p>  <p>Education: MA Education/Teaching English Language Learners - Walden University; BA History/Philosophy - Metropolitan State University of Denver</p> <p>Certification: Elementary Education (K-6) – Colorado Department of Education; Linguistically Diverse Education (K-12) – Colorado Department of Education</p> <p>Experience as an educator: 15 years</p> <p>Home Country: USA</p>

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 <p>Abigail Especkerman Kindergarten Teacher</p> <p>Education: BSc - Education - Emporia State University</p> <p>Certification: Elementary Education K-6 Teaching License - Kansas State Board of Education</p> <p>Experience as an educator: 8 years</p> <p>Home Country: USA</p>	 <p>Leon Hartley Grade 4 Teacher</p> <p>Education: Bachelor of Science - Computer Studies - University of Glamorgan (now called University of South Wales)</p> <p>Certifications: Level 5 TEFL Certificate - London Teacher Training College, Teaching Certificate - Moreland University (ongoing)</p> <p>Experience as an educator: 8 years</p> <p>Home Country: UK</p>
 <p>Constance Jiang Elementary School Mandarin Teacher</p> <p>Education: BA Chinese Literature - Fujian Normal University; MA Chinese Literature - National University of Singapore</p> <p>Certification: National Teacher Qualification Certificate of China - Ministry of Education Administration of China</p> <p>Experience as an educator: 11 years</p> <p>Home Country: China</p>	 <p>Ashley Lai Elementary School EAL Teacher</p> <p>Education: M.Ed. International Education - Framingham State University; BA English Literature - Yunnan University</p> <p>Certification: Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages, American TESOL Institute; National Teacher Qualification Certificate of China</p> <p>Experience as an educator: 11 years</p> <p>Home Country: China</p>

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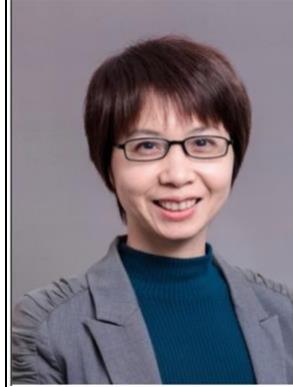
Barbara Levy
Grade 3 Teacher

Education: Bachelor of Arts Joint Honours: Psychology and Sociology, University of Leeds

Certification: Post Graduate Certificate in Education (PGCE) University of Swansea

Experience as an educator: 25 years

Home Country: UK



Elaine Li
Elementary School IT Teacher

Education: M. Ed. International Education – Framingham State University; BA Computer Science & Technology – Guangdong University of Foreign Studies

Certification: ICT in the Secondary Level – Ministry of Education Administration of China

Experience as an educator: 14 years

Home Country: China



Wu Li
Elementary School Visual Arts Teacher

Education: BA Art Teaching - Jingdezhen Ceramic University

Certification: Visual Arts Teaching Certificate – Xiamen Bureau of Education

Experience as an educator: 26 years

Home Country: China



Reggie Lu
Elementary School Physical Education Teacher /
Director of Activities

Education: BD Physical Education – Jimei University

Certification: Teaching Certificate - The Ministry of Education Administration of China

Experience as an educator: 26 years

Home Country: China

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Milton Nieto
Grade 2 Teacher

Education: M.Ed. TESOL - Greensboro College, North Carolina;
BA Modern Languages (Spanish-English) - Universidad Distrital, Bogota, Columbia

Certification: K-12 Teaching License in Modern Languages (Spanish and English) – Bogota, Columbia

Experience as an educator: 20 years

Home Country: Colombia



Scott Patrick
Elementary School Music Teacher

Education: Bachelors of Music - Sam Houston State University

Certification: Teaching Certificate - Education Music Grades EC (EY) -12 - Texas

Experience as an educator: 15 years

Home Country: USA



Tammy Sheng
Elementary School EAL Teacher

Education: BA English - Beijing Foreign Studies University; M.Ed. International Education – Framingham University

Certification: English and Chinese Teaching Certificate - The Ministry of Education Administration of China

Experience as an educator: 14 years

Home Country: China



Daniel Spears
Grade 3 Teacher

Education: M. Ed. Integrated Curriculum, American College of Education
BA Communication and Information Sciences, University of Alabama

Certification: **Humanities** K-12 Teaching License- Florida Department of Education, 120 Hour TESOL Certification- International TESOL & TEFL Training

Experience as an educator: 16 years

Home Country: USA

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Luna Sun

Elementary School Mandarin Teacher



Education: MA Chinese Language & Literature – Xiamen University; BEng Pharmaceutical Engineering 0 Beijing University of Chinese Medicine.

Certifications: National Teacher Qualification Certificate – Xiamen Education Bureau

Experience as an educator: 7 years

Home Country: China

Shelley West

Elementary School EAL Teacher



Education: BA Secondary Education - University of Alaska Anchorage, Masters in English as a Second Language- WGU

Certifications: Teaching Spanish 7-12, English as a Second Language PreK-12

Experience as an educator: 30 years

Home Country: USA

Liz Thal

Grade 2 Teacher



Education: MA Teaching Diverse Learners and BA Elementary Education (K-6) - University of Northern Colorado

Certifications: Elementary Education Teaching License (K-6), Dual Endorsement in Special Education and Culturally & Linguistically Diverse Education-Colorado Department of Education

Experience as an educator: 8 Years

Home Country: USA

Daniel Withey

Grade 5 Teacher - Head of Department Grades 4 & 5



Education: MA Journalism- University of Lincoln, BA Ancient History and Archaeology – University of Wales Lampeter

Certification: Teaching Certificate – Moreland University

Experience as an educator: 14 years

Home Country: UK

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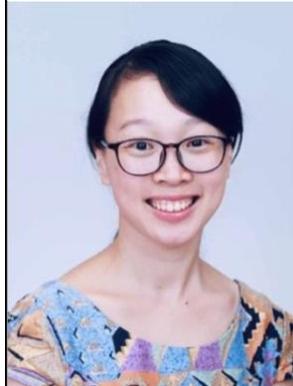
Jennifer Wong
Grade 5 Teacher

Education: BS Business Administration and International Business and Finance – University of San Francisco

Certification: TEFL - UK

Experience as an educator: 11 years

Home Country: USA



Ava Zhang
Elementary School Mandarin Teacher

Education: MA International Education – Framingham State University; BA Chinese Language & Literature - Renmin University of China Business and Finance – University of San Francisco

Certification: Teacher Certification for Teaching English/Chinese – Education Bureau of China; Certificate for Teachers of Chinese to Speakers of Other Languages – Confucius Institute Headquarters

Experience as an educator: 19 years

Home Country: China



Meeta Bhagtani
Secondary School Art & Design Teacher – Head of Department
Visual Arts & Design

Education: BA: Fashion Designing, MA: Management

Certification: TEFL Certification, Harvard X Leaders of Learning Certification, Integrating STEM Certification, Cambridge Art & Design certification

Experience as an educator: 13 years

Home Country: India



Jessica Chen
Secondary School Mandarin Teacher

Education: Bachelor's degree in international Mandarin Teaching; On-the-job Master in Mandarin Teaching expecting in 2026

Certification: Mandarin teaching certificate for High School

Experience as an educator: 5 years

Home Country: China

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Aristica Ciobanu

Secondary School Science Teacher



Education: MSc (Hons.) Science - London Metropolitan University (UK); BSc (Hons.) - Biotechnology Engineering - USMVB (Ro)

Certification: QTS - General Teaching Council (UK); JCQ - Award for Service to Examining (UK)

Experience as an educator: 16 years

Home Country: UK

Emily Cornet

**Secondary School I&S Teacher /
Head of Department – I&S**



Education: MA - English - Northern Arizona University, MAT - Lewis & Clark College, BA - Sociology - University of Hawaii at Manoa

Certification: Business, English, and Social Studies PreK-12 Professional Teaching License - Oregon Teacher Standards and Practices Commission

Experience as an educator: 24 years

Home Country: USA

Colin de Beer

Secondary School Math Teacher



Education: B.Ed Intermediate and Snr Phase, B.Com Financial Management, H.Ed Educational Management, M.Ed Educational Management (In Progress) - University of South Africa

Certification: South African Council for Education, British Columbia (Canada) Teaching Certification, Financial Advisor and Intermediary Certification (RE5), Young Aspiring Managers Course (OUTsurance Ltd)

Experience as an educator: 8 years

Home Country: South Africa

Andrew Dickerson

Secondary School I&S Teacher



Education: BS - History and Social Studies - Central Michigan University

Certification: Social Studies and History G6-12 - Michigan Department of Education

Experience as an educator: 9 years

Home Country: USA

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 <p style="text-align: center;">Meta Dispini Secondary School Math Teacher</p> <p>Education: Master of Education (Mathematics specialist) - Sanata Dharma University, Indonesia ; Bachelor of Education (Mathematics specialist) - Sanata Dharma University, Indonesia</p> <p>Certification: Teaching License, Mathematics Applications and Interpretation, WASC Visiting Team Committee</p> <p>Experience as an educator: 7 years</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Home Country: Indonesia</p>	 <p style="text-align: center;">Liezl Gleeson Secondary School EAL/ L&L Teacher</p> <p>Education: MA International Education – Framingham State University; BA English Education - Xavier University Ateneo de Cagayan, Philippines</p> <p>Certification: Professional Teacher License, Republic of the Philippines Professional Regulation Commission</p> <p>Experience as an educator: 20 years</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Home Country: Philippines</p>
 <p style="text-align: center;">Edmund Go Secondary School PE Teacher / Director of Athletics</p> <p>Education: BS Secondary Physical Education - Colegio San Juan de Letran Intrmuros, Manila; Bachelors Business Administration - Woodbury University, California</p> <p>Certification: Teacher License Registered Certificate - Manila, Philippines</p> <p>Experience as an educator: 22 years</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Home Country: Philippines</p>	 <p style="text-align: center;">Dr. Duygu Gulev Secondary School Science Teacher</p> <p>Education: BA Biology Education. MA: Biology Education. Ph.D Biology Education – Gazi University, Turkey</p> <p>Certifications: Certificate of International School Leadership - Principal Training Center (PTC) (in progress).</p> <p>Experience as an educator: 15</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Home Country: Turkey</p>

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 <p>Salvatore Gugliotta Secondary School Language and Literature Teacher / Head of Department - English</p> <p>Education: MFA Fiction Writing - Drexel University; BA Literature - Coastal Carolina University</p> <p>Certification: Grades 7-12 English Language Arts Teaching Certificate - Pennsylvania Department of Education</p> <p>Experience as an educator: 15 years</p> <p>Home Country: USA</p>	 <p>Jamel Khaleel Arabic Teacher</p> <p>Education: Bachelor of Arabic Language - University of Arts / Manouba</p> <p>Certification: Diploma in Teaching Arabic Language Methods - Educational Qualification Certificate</p> <p>Experience as an educator: 26 years</p> <p>Home Country: Tunisia</p>
 <p>Kashveer Raghunath Secondary School Design Teacher</p> <p>Education: MA Education – Liverpool John Moore’s University (United Kingdom), BA Education - University of the Free State (South Africa)</p> <p>Certification: TEFL Professional Development Institute (USA) P4C (Philosophy for Children) Facilitator</p> <p>Experience as an educator: 14 years</p> <p>Home Country: South Africa</p>	 <p>James Kerr Secondary School Music Teacher/ Head of Department - Music</p> <p>Education: M. Ed. Educational Technology, B.A. Music</p> <p>Certifications: K-12 Certification, Washington State, DC</p> <p>Experience as an educator: 9 years</p> <p>Home Country: India</p>

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Kevin Klein
Secondary School Math Teacher

Education: Master's Educational Leadership - Central Michigan University; Bachelor's of Science in Education (Business and Mathematics) - Central Michigan University

Certifications: Professional Teaching Certificate Mathematics 612; Business Education 6-12; Vocational Business Services 6-12 – Michigan Department of Education

Experience as an educator: 29 years

Home Country: USA



Jooyoung Lee
Secondary School Korean Teacher

Education: Master of International Korean Language and Culture - Kyunghee University; Bachelor of Korean Language and Literature - Hanshin University

Certifications: The Second Degree of Teaching Korean as a Second Language - National Institute of Korean Language; The Second Degree of Lifelong Educator - National Institute for Lifelong Education

Experience as an educator: 11 years

Home Country: Republic of Korea



Daisy Li
Secondary School Mandarin Teacher - Head of Department – World Languages

Education: Bachelor of Literature, Teaching Chinese as A Foreign Language - Beijing Language and Culture University; Bachelor Degree of Science - Jiangsu University; Bachelor Degree of Science - Fujian Normal University

Certifications: Middle School English Teacher Qualification Certificate - Xiamen Education Bureau; Teaching Chinese as a Second Language - The International Society of Chinese Language Pedagogy; Qualified Certificate of Pedagogy and Psychology - Office of Fujian Provincial Higher Education

Experience as an educator: 21 years

Home Country: China



Juby Liao
Secondary School EAL Teacher / SA (Service as Action) Coordinator

Education: M.Ed. International Education - Framingham University; BA English Language and Literature - Xi'an International Studies University

Certification: National Teacher Qualification Certificate - Xiamen Education Bureau

Experience as an educator: 8 years

Home Country: China

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Nicole Lin
Secondary School Mandarin Teacher

Education: BA Chinese Language and Literature-Jimei University

Certification: National Teacher Qualification Certificate - Xiamen Education Bureau

Experience as an educator: 7 years

Home Country: China



Fiona Lv
Secondary School EAL Teacher

Education: M.Ed. International Education - Framingham State University; BA English Education - Nanchang University

Certification: TESOL--Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages-ITTT, English Teaching Certificate for Middle School - The Ministry of Education Administration of China

English Teaching Certificate for Middle School - The Ministry of Education Administration of China

Experience as an educator: 12 years

Home Country: China



Marqurite McCurdy
Secondary School Science Teacher / Extended Essay Coordinator

Education: Med. Science Education; B.A. Chemistry, Biology & Psychology – Talladega College, University of Montevallo

Certification: Teaching Certificate - Wisconsin Department of Education

Experience as an educator: 30 years

Home Country: USA



Paul McCarthy
Secondary School I&S Teacher

Education: B.Ed. from the University of Limerick

Certification: Qualified Teacher Status with Irish Dept. of Education, Irish Primary Principal Induction Course. Diploma in Religion from the University of Limerick

Experience as an educator: 25 years

Home Country: Ireland

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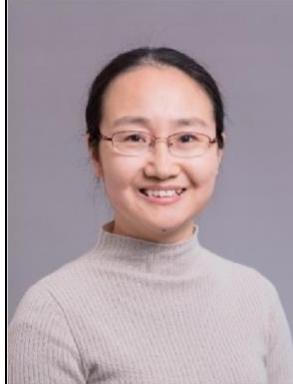
Mary Ocava
Secondary School Math & Science Teacher

Education: Master of Arts in Education Major in Mathematics (completed 36 units) - Bulacan State University - Philippines, Bachelor of Science in Electronics and Communications Engineering - AMA Computer University - Quezon City, Philippines

Certification: Licensed Professional Teacher in Secondary Level Major in Mathematics

Experience as an educator: 21 years

Home Country: Philippines



May Shen
Secondary School Mandarin Teacher

Education: BA Chinese Language and Literature - Xiamen University

Certification: National Teacher Qualification Certificate - Xiamen Education Bureau

Experience as an educator: 18 years

Home Country: China



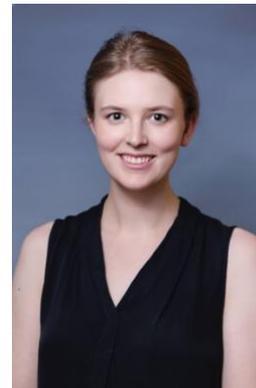
Shannon Speight
Secondary School PE Teacher

Education: MS- Health, Physical Activity and Chronic Disease from University of Pittsburgh BS- in Physical Education from Coastal Carolina University

Certification: NJ teaching certificate in Health and Physical Education

Experience as an educator: 9 years

Home Country: USA



Carly Swisher
Secondary School English Language & Literature

Education: MAT English Language Arts, ESOL- Southern Oregon University BA English Writing and Literature

Certification: Oregon Teaching License, Montana Teaching License, English Language Arts, ESOL

Experience as an educator: 7 years

Home Country: USA

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Annie Wang
Secondary School EAL Teacher

Education: M.Ed. Education - Framingham State University; BA Chinese Language and Literature – Xiamen University

Certification: National Teacher Qualification Certificate - Xiamen Education Bureau

Experience as an educator: 18 years

Home Country: China



You Xin
Secondary School Mandarin Teacher

Education: M.Ed. Education - Framingham State University; BA Chinese Language and Literature – Xiamen University

Certification: National Teacher Qualification Certificate - Xiamen Education Bureau

Experience as an educator: 18 years

Home Country: China

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