

Meet the US Master Educators

 education™

**MASTER
EDUCATOR**



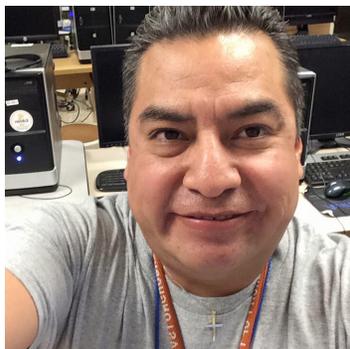
Where are LEGO® Education Master Educators From?





Chelsea Abreu
Kindergarten Teacher / Library Media Specialist
Randolph Howell Elementary, Columbia, TN

Chelsea Abreu is a third-generation teacher and teaching children is something she has wanted to do her entire life. Chelsea is a compassionate educator who strives to inspire a lifelong love of learning in her students. She enjoys and actively works to build positive relationships with her students, their families, her colleagues and administration. Chelsea is excited to incorporate STEM and LEGO® with the teachers and students at her school.



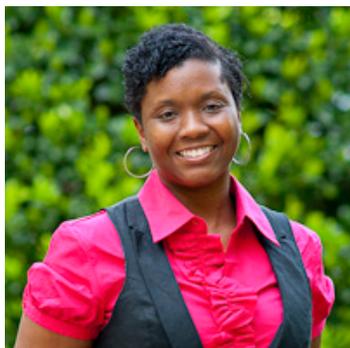
Javier Aguilar
Technology & Computer Science Teacher
East Fort Worth Montessori Academy, Fort Worth, TX

This is Javier Aguilar's fifth year as a technology and computer science teacher in Fort Worth. His goal is to make positive changes in his students' educational journey, by better equipping them for the future. He teaches computer basics and fundamentals, Microsoft applications, principles of coding with Code.org tutorials, Scratch, Processing language, CS First Google, and Robotics. Javier leads afterschool coding clubs, which include enrichment robotics, LEGO® Education WeDo, and LEGO® MINDSTORMS® Education NXT for his students. Additionally, he teaches free computer classes to parents and the community in Spanish and English. One of his greatest accomplishments as a teacher is getting girls interested in learning more about computer science, STEM, Robotics, MinecraftEdu and coding. As a father of two girls, Javier would like to empower more girls and minorities to join technology fields.



Daniel Aktas
Art / Technology Teacher
Pine Bush High School , Pine Bush, NY

Daniel Aktas is an art and technology educator at Pine Bush High School in upstate New York. He constantly works to integrate art, technology, and the community to support his students to be the best makers, thinkers, and builders of tomorrow. At home, he can be found in his maker space working on everything including 3D printing, AutoCAD, ceramics, crocheting, microcontrollers, programming, and LEGO®.



Tomika Altman-Lewis
5th Grade LEAP Teacher
Seawell Elementary School, Chapel Hill, NC

Tomika Altman-Lewis is a 14-year veteran educator that has taught all grade-levels (K-12) in a variety of disciplines from Family and Consumer Sciences to Gifted Education. She is a recipient of numerous grants, awards, and fellowships. She advocates for STEM and loves sharing best practices and innovative ideas with others.



Sean Arnold
STEM Coach
District 75 Citywide Programs, New York, NY

Sean is a special educator and STEM coach who has taught in New York City's District 75 citywide special needs program since 2005. He is committed to reaching all students through innovative technology and practices. He shares his experience of making learning accessible, inventive, and playful to bring change to education. He has helped lead the District 75 **FIRST**® LEGO® League for the last 2 years and has used LEGO® Education and robotics tools for STEM instruction for many more. He received the 2017 NYCDOE Excellence in Schools Technology Award and 2018 ISTE Teacher of the Year Honorable Mention, as well as recognition as an Apple Distinguished Educator, Microsoft Innovative Educator Expert, Google Certified Trainer, and many others. You can view some of his shared efforts on BraveInTheAttempt.com.



Nichole Aryanpur
Instructor & PLC Lead
Pioneer Heritage Middle School, Frisco, TX

Nichole Aryanpur began teaching as a Math/ESL instructor before becoming an Integrated Language Arts Teacher and a Theatre Director. When the robotics teacher retired, she was hesitant to take the position, but has never looked back. She truly feels she has found her place and takes pride in the accomplishments she has made as a Robotics Leader in her district. Her passion has grown her robotics program on campus from two classes to five over the past five years (and increased the number of females in class by 17%) as well as allowed her to be the first in her district to create a Robotics II class. She has been asked to present (along with her technology administrator) at two seminars this year about the growth of her program.



Bradley Ashley
K-12 Technology Specialist
Bronxville Union Free School District, Bronxville, NY

Bradley Ashley is the K-12 Technology Specialist for the Bronxville Union Free School District. Bradley is very passionate about Computer Science and teaches a number of courses in the school and was an adjunct professor at Teachers College and PACE University in the past. Bradley enjoys connecting the unplugged conceptual work of Computer Science to the digital representation, and then using both to connect to the physical world - engaging students to make something that can have a lasting impact.



Jason Atkinson
Classroom Teacher / Technology Coordinator
Del Sol STEAM Academy, Jurupa Valley, CA

Jason Atkinson has taught primary grades for 19 years and has embraced the adoption of technology to allow students to become the creators, rather than just consumers of technology. Jason was selected as his district's Elementary Teacher of the Year in 2016 and his school's Teacher of the Year in 2019. Jason serves on the district's NGSS committee helping to develop and facilitate NGSS Units of Study for 2nd grade. In addition, Jason is the technology coordinator for his school.



Becky Au
Kindergarten Teacher
Sonoma Elementary, Las Cruces, NM

Becky Au is an innovative teacher who likes to teach hands on. Becky instills opportunities for her students to become independent learners and take ownership for their own learning. Becky has LEGO® Education Classroom Kits in which she uses to support LEGO® writing.



Jill Badalamenti
Technology Specialist
Reed School, Ofallon, MO

Jill Badalamenti is a passionate leader and educator who believes in pushing people beyond what they think they can achieve into what they have achieved. She is always looking for what works best with kids and adults. She is committed to bringing the community and school together to build one community centered around the students. All of her students learn differently and she believes that we should take inventory of the way they learn best and teach to their strengths. Jill was awarded Teacher Innovator of the Year for 2016 by The Henry Ford and STEM Educator of the Year for 2018 from METC.



Sarai Bakal
Instructional Math Coach
District 75 Citywide Programs, New York, NY

Sarai Bakal went to elementary school in Israel. When she was 10 she moved to the United States where she struggled to learn English. Bypassing language, she pursued Fine Arts and continues to paint to this day. Her love for teaching began during her education at Florida State University. In the following years, she earned her degree in special education and followed her dreams to NYC where she became a teacher in the largest special education district in the country. She continued her education by participating in certification programs such as TARA-Autism, Center for Teaching and Research, The Urban Advantage Science Initiative at participating NYC science-rich cultural institutions, NYC professional development and conferences around the city. She recently began a new position as a district-wide math coach for schools of special education, providing instructional support and resources to hundreds of teachers.



Nancy Balaun
STEM Lead
Oakcliff Traditional Theme School, Doraville, GA

Nancy Balaun left a lucrative job as a System's Engineer with IBM 14 years ago, because she wanted to make a difference in the lives of children whose financial circumstances put them at risk of underachieving due to lack of opportunity. She has continued to learn and develop her skills through professional development so she can make learning exciting, engaging, and meaningful for students. She seeks to complement classroom learning by developing business and higher education partnerships within the community, as well as researching and adapting 21st century technology and skills for the classroom.



Amanda Barber
Third Grade Teacher
Reeds Elementary School, Lexington, NC

Amanda Barber is a third grade teacher from North Carolina. She has been teaching for 10 years and absolutely loves using LEGO® products with her students. She currently mentors other teachers throughout her school system on ways to use LEGO products in the classroom.



Erik Barton
Lead Teacher
Knox Center for Accelerated Studies, Salisbury, NC

Erik Barton a native of Flint, Michigan is a North Carolina science educator that thoroughly enjoys what he does! He focuses on fostering a love and appreciation for science and the arts. He serve as a lead teacher for both the science department and the visual and performing arts department. He teaches science throughout the day and facilitate the integration of visual and performing arts education into daily curriculum. He works hand in hand with the other 5 Lead teachers of the interest and career based pods.



Joanne Biltz
K-12 Technology Instructor, Computer Science Teacher, and Robotics Coach
Lancaster Country Day School, Lancaster, PA

Joanne Biltz has coached robotics for the past nine years and recently expanded to teaching technology and computer science in grades K-12. She previously worked as an engineer at Verizon for many years and has found her passion in education. Her goal is to ignite a passion for STEM starting in the early years and building on that as they grow.



Jon Bishop
K-12 STEM Coordinator, Computer Science Teacher & Robotics Coach
Canton Public Schools, West Simsbury, CT

Jon Bishop has been a tinkerer, problem solver, and questioner his entire life. As a child, between making and taking things apart, he always had an interest in what would be known as the STEM field. Throughout his career, Jon has been developing programs and teaching STEM to students from kindergarten through high school. Jon believes in the value of a difficult problem to puzzle through. He enjoys the challenge of learning and working with the latest technology, and he appreciates the chance to think the long thought and grow through hard work over time. Now, as the STEM Coordinator for his district, Jon enjoys challenging all students to constantly grow in his computer science and robotics courses as well as his various robotics teams.



Mindy Bissett
Gifted and Talented Facilitator
Seventh Street Elementary, North Little Rock, AR

Mindy Bissett teaches kindergarten enrichment. These 30 minute lessons are designed to find gifted and talented youth. Mindy also pulls out 1st through 5th grade students that are identified as gifted and talented and provide services to them. She gets to design curriculum that they are interested in. Mindy also teaches high level math to all of my students. One of her favorite parts about being a teacher is seeing the light bulb go off in a child.



Julie Blystad
Science & Robotics Teacher
Bertschi School, Seattle, WA

Julie Blystad has taught science, robotics and technology for over 20 years. As the daughter of a biologist and aeronautical engineer, it has been her calling. One of the highlights of her career was being selected as a 2017 LEGO® Educator of the year and traveling to Billund, Denmark where she had an opportunity to meet with LEGO educators from around the world.



Katie Bostian
ESL Teacher
Knollwood Elementary, Salisbury, NC

Katie Bostian taught Kindergarten for 12 years, 1st Grade for a year and she is currently also an ESL teacher. She saw the influx of our EL population and felt it was important to learn ways to support this growing population so she added ESL to my license. Katie is also a wife and mother of two teenagers. She enjoys bowling, fishing and traveling with her family.



Lynne Boucher
STEAM Director & Educator
Viera Charter School, Rockledge, FL

Lynne Boucher has been a Florida educator for over 20 years. She has spent the past several years working to incorporate art and creative problem solving into STEM education so that ALL students can learn. One of the reasons why Lynne loves to use LEGO® Education kits in her classroom is because of the many creative applications you can use to get students excited about everyday learning. Lynne has two adult sons and a husband who is an incredible cook! When she is not teaching, she can be found reading, stargazing, or playing with her 4 large dogs.



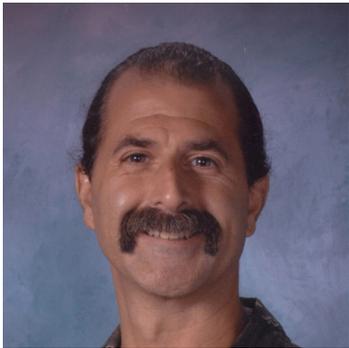
Jeffrey Bradbury
Coordinator of Instructional Technology
Westwood Regional School District, Twp. of Washington, NJ

Jeffrey Bradbury is the Coordinator of Instructional Technology at Westwood Regional School District and the founder of the TeacherCast Educational Network.



Alisha Bridges
LEGO Lead Teacher
Jesse S. Bobo Elementary, Spartanburg, SC

Alisha Bridges is an educator with a passion for engineering, design, and fostering creativity in her students. Working for 12 years at a Title 1 school in an urban setting, Alisha sees the value of enabling students to be problem solvers, critical thinkers, and increasing her students' interpersonal skills. Before becoming an instructor in her school's LEGO® Lab, Alisha taught first grade for ten years. As a mother of two small children herself, Alisha recognizes the powerful learning tool that LEGO bricks can be.



Allen Brooks
Technology Teacher
San Elijo Middle School, San Marcos, CA

Allen Brooks earned his degree in Liberal Studies from California State University San Marcos. He currently holds a Multiple Subject Teaching Credential, a Single Subject in Industry and Technology as well as a Career Technical Education. He teaches technology at San Elijo Middle School. Prior to pursuing his teaching career, he owned an international computer hardware and software development company. He is a serial entrepreneur and currently, together with his wife, owns another company (RetainIt.com) which has products in the orthodontic and sporting goods industries.



Carmela Brown
Teacher
Sallye Moore College and Career Preparatory, Grand Prairie, TX

Carmela Brown is a Technology instructor. She has been involved with technology for over 30 years and began her career as a software engineer. She learned first-hand about the lack of minorities and women in STEM careers and decided to make a difference. Carmela is committed to opening children's minds to new possibilities and helping them realize their potential. Her goal is to empower girls and minorities to enter into STEM careers. Her innovative teaching methods earned her several distinctions and she coached robotics teams that have earned recognition at local, state, and international levels. Her students are featured in the 2019 LEGO® Education Solution Guide. She also received recognition as an Apple Educator, Texas Region 10 Digital Fluency Master Teacher, Google Certified Teacher, GPISD Digital Ambassador and many others.



Lisbon Brown
Math Coach
Lukeville Upper Elementary, Brusly, LA

Being the mother of three very, bright and energetic individuals and the nana of two inquisitive granddaughters, Lisbon Brown's love for learning and passion for children spans decades. She is always looking for ways to challenge youth and empower them to become independent problem-solvers. She loves to travel for new adventures and network with others.



Michelle Brown
Teacher on Special Assignment for Educational Technology
Santa Clara Unified School District, Sunnyvale, CA

Michelle Brown combines her 19 years of experience teaching secondary English, her M.S. in Education for Online Teaching and Learning, as well as her Computer Science Supplemental Credential to help teachers use technology to make learning more engaging and relevant. She believes in meeting the students where they are to help build perseverance and confidence. Michelle currently serves as a Educational Technology TOSA for Santa Clara Unified School District. Their 1:1 K-12 Chromebook initiative makes possible the engagement of all students in Computer Science across the curriculum via robotics, design thinking, and creation expression. LEGO® makes this possible.



Nicole Buchanan
Science and Robotics Teacher
Kelly Elementary School, Carlsbad, CA

Nicole Buchanan is a science and robotics teacher, her primary focus is on innovation, collaborative learning, and fun. She pushes the importance of learning through student inquiry. Nicole directs students toward outside the box innovative thinking, digging deeper, and seeing the bigger picture. Nicole is also an Apple Distinguished Educator.



Katie Buckley
Special Educator & STEM Coordinator
LeRoy CUSD #2, LeRoy, IL

Katie Buckley is an educator in the LeRoy School District. She teaches special education classes, STEM classes and provides support to teachers in PreK-12. She is also a member of various Facebook groups such as STEM TeacherTribe and Merge Educators. Her teaching philosophy is that all students have the capacity to learn regardless of their age or ability level. By using engaging activities, students are able to grow academically, socially and emotionally.



Cissy Burns
First Grade Teacher
Onaway Elementary School, Shaker Heights, OH

Cissy Burns is an enthusiastic, passionate educator in the Shaker Heights City School District. She is a former flight attendant and enjoys travel, her home, and her Ragdoll cat and Cavachon dog. Cissy also enjoys learning new things, gardening, organizing, and helping others achieve their dreams and chase their rainbows!



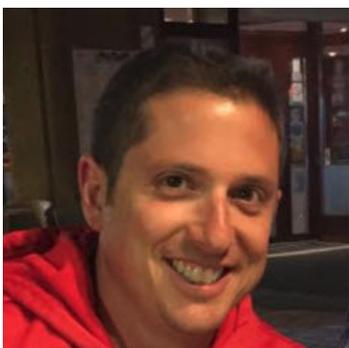
Frank Caccavale
Technology & Engineering Education Teacher
Ridge High School, Basking Ridge, NJ

Frank Caccavale is an award winning high school teacher who teaches students technology, engineering, and design skills through the use of hands on education and engaging real world design challenges. Frank is passionate about fostering creativity in students and incorporating design thinking in his classroom and holds a Masters of Education in Technology & Innovation from Millersville University of Pennsylvania. Frank is actively involved with the New Jersey Technology & Engineering Educators Association and the International Technology & Engineering Educators Association (ITEEA) where he has presented numerous times on teaching design thinking through LEGO® Education tools. Frank is an Eagle Scout, has a Masters in Educational Leadership, and recently recognized as an Emerging Leader by ITEEA.



Chris Campbell
Master Teacher
Louisiana Tech University - College of Education, Ruston, LA

Chris Campbell is a Master Teacher at Louisiana Tech University, where he helps prepare math and science teachers as part of the UTEACH program – Uteach Tech, and is active in STEM teacher professional development through the College of Education's Science and Technology Education Center (SciTEC). He taught middle math and science, physical science, Algebra, engineering, and coached track for 14 years at Simsboro. He was an Albert Einstein Distinguished Educator Fellow at the National Science Foundation (NSF) from 2012-2013, served as the NSTA District VII Director from 2011-2014, and is currently the Region IV Director of the National Earth Science Teachers Association (NESTA), and presents regularly at local, state, and national conferences on inquiry-based STEM teaching.



Mathieu Campet
School Based Technology Specialist
Wolftrap Elementary School, Vienna, VA

Mathieu Campet is a STEAM Teacher and School Based Technology Specialist in Fairfax County Public Schools. He studied Early Childhood Education at James Madison University (undergrad), Integration of Technology in Education at George Mason University (M.Ed) and has completed many courses in Education Administration at the University of Virginia. He has been a teacher his whole life. From teaching his little brother how to jump on a bed, giving swim lessons at the local pool, to spending the last 15 years in the classroom (K, 1st, Technology & STEAM), it has been his life's passion!



Phil Capasso
K-8 STEM Coach
Colts Neck Township Schools, Colts Neck NJ

Phil Capasso started his educational career teaching TV Production at the high school and intermediate school levels. He then transitioned to teaching a Technology & Engineering Design Lab utilizing a former woodshop. In his current role as STEM Coach he assists teachers with technology integration, new program rollout and lesson enhancement. He holds a Bachelor's degree in Technology Education from The College of New Jersey, a Masters degree in Curriculum and Instruction: Technology from Grand Canyon University and a Supervisory Certificate from Rowan University. He served on the Executive Board of the New Jersey Technology and Engineering Educators Association and has been a Level 1 and 2 Google Certified Educator for the past six years.



Michael Carton
Director of Education
WQPT Quad Cities, Rock Island, IL

Michael Carton is the Director of Education and Outreach for WQPT Quad Cities PBS, and a former first grade teacher. For more than 10 years, he has been teaching children in grades K-6 with LEGO® Education products, including WeDo, WeDo 2.0, LEGO® MINDSTORMS® NXT, EV3, BuildToExpress, Simple Machines, and StoryStarter. When he's not teaching children, he enjoys spending quality time with his wife and six-year-old son, and preparing for twins that will arrive later this year.



Mark Case
Teacher
Southern Guilford High, Greensboro, NC

Mark Case directed summer camps and environmental education centers from 1988 to 2006. He transitioned to public education in 2007 to effectively incorporate STEM education in daily curriculum. Mark is involved in STEM advocacy in Scouting, youth groups and classroom extensions.



Sophie Chambers
Gifted Teacher and Innovation & Learning Coach
Dewey Elementary School, Chillicothe, MO

Sophie Chambers has taught in Chillicothe, MO, for nine years serving as a third grade teacher, fourth grade teacher, gifted education teacher, and elementary innovation and learning coach. She is also the co-founder of her local after-school STEAM Club, which provides 42 fourth through sixth graders the opportunity to explore new tools and independent studies. Furthermore, Sophie presents regularly at professional development conferences nationwide, usually alongside her students, including breakout sessions at ISTE, METC, I2, and EdCamps. Sophie has a passion for reaching all students through quality, hands-on learning and believes every child can be a quality, productive member of society. She uses activities like robotics, circuitry, building materials, art, cooking, quilting, and more to reach every type of learner.



Ian Chow-Miller
Robotics Teacher
Frontier Middle School, Graham, WA

Ian Chow-Miller is a middle school teacher who would be bored teaching without LEGO®, robotics and other hands-on STEM materials. Ian was a proud member of the LEGO® Education Advisory Panel and loves the opportunity to engage with the products both at the company level and in his classroom. He is the author of several books on robotics, 3D printing and a STEM series for kids. In his spare time he coaches soccer and he lives in Washington State with his amazing wife and two sons who are growing up too fast.



Patricia Chung
Elementary Teacher
Hope St. Elementary, Huntington Park, CA

Patricia Chung is an educator with 20 years of experience. The majority of her experience is in 2nd and 5th grades. She has taught in Hawaii and in Southern California. Patricia believes hands-on learning is the most effective way to reach students and makes the learning most meaningful. It allows for students to connect and therefore retain what they learn.



Allen Clupny Robotics
Teacher Rio Rancho Middle School
Rio Rancho, NM

Allen Clupny uses LEGO® MINDSTORMS® Education EV3 and its software to help his students learn about and understand technology as it relates to core subject curriculum concepts and technology being used today. He retired from the USAF in 1997 with 20 years of work in Instrumentation and Telemetry, building computers and data acquisition systems for aircraft and laboratory tests and performing evaluations of navigation systems. He has 10 years of experience as a maintenance, operations and process technician and as an INTEL Corp in the automated factory. Allen also has 2+ years as a Robotics Teacher at RRMS.



Ashley Coffman
Educational Technology Trainer
Mansfield ISD, Mansfield, TX

After getting her degree in business and working in the business world the first year after graduation, Ashley discovered that her true passion was in teaching. She has been in education for 16 years - the first six as a high school technology teacher and the past 10 as an Educational Technology Trainer. As an EdTech Trainer, Ashley is fortunate to have the opportunity to share her love for technology with other educators and help them take teaching and learning to the next level with the integration of technology. Some of her key accomplishments over the past five years have included launching and coordinating a district-wide robotics program and facilitating the integration of STEM content and activities into curriculum and instruction.



Christopher Colson
21st Century Technology Teacher
Goff Middle School, Pawtucket, RI

Christopher Colson has been married to his wife, Kelly, for 22 years. They have 3 children: Kayla 20, Sarah 17, and Ryan 13. He is a sports fan, particularly football, baseball and hockey. His hobbies include photography, videography and travel. He is also a youth sports coach, coaching baseball, softball, hockey, and cross country.



Laurie Condon
Gifted Resource Teacher
Rollins Place Elementary, Zachary, LA

Laurie has been a National Board Certified teacher as an Early Childhood Generalist since 2006. A two time Teacher of the Year winner, Laurie serves on numerous committees and curriculum development teams, both for her school and her district. She serves on the District Science Leadership team, the Arts integration team, the Technology team, and the Robotics team. She was instrumental in developing summer STEAM camps that supported hundreds of learners investigating science, technology, engineering, and math while integrating art. Laurie is also a National Geographic Certified Educator, which unites her with a global community of educators that she uses to impact her students as she seeks to develop the next generation of explorers, conservationists, and global citizens.



Janet Correll
K-5 Gifted teacher
Pinecrest Elementary School, Lithia, FL

Janet Correll is a Gifted Teacher from Florida. She has been teaching for 31 years. Janet has been using LEGO® Education sets for the last 5 years. She and her students just love using LEGO® to build, to complete challenges or to solve problems using LEGO solutions.



Maggie Cox
Teacher
Desert Pines High School, Las Vegas, NV

Maggie Cox is a CTE teacher with a sports medicine background. She is a strong leader in her district and has networked beyond her school to support her passions including STEM education. Maggie was nominated for a second year for the Heart of Education Award this year. She utilizes the education four C's as she designs and reflect on her lessons; critical thinking, collaboration, communication, and creation. Maggie believes we need to develop students creative process so they can continue to adapt to a rapidly changing workforce. She believes STEM is CTE and we need to continue to allow students time to process through problems and create solutions so they are ready for future careers.



Ingrid Cruz
STEM Teacher
Oxon Hill Middle School, Fort Washington, MD

Ingrid Cruz is a dedicated educator for more than 11 years. She just recently completed her doctoral degree at Southern University's Science and Math Education program. In her dissertation, she investigated the Impact of Educational Robotics in Promoting the Critical thinking of Middle School Students. She developed a multi-level robotics program in middle school consisting of the following courses: LEGO® Robotics; Green Design and Technology; RobotC programming with Tetrrix; and Marine Robotics. She coached several robotics teams and sponsors robotics competitions as well. She is an advocate of getting girls engaged in math and science thus, she had been sponsoring the Pink robots club consisting of middle school girls that offers programming workshops to elementary robotics teams.



Geoff Cyr
Technology Integrator
Searsport Elementary School, Searsport, ME

Geoff Cyr is an elementary technology integrator and youth robotics mentor, with specific interests in robotics, 3D printing, video production, and more. Geoff has worked with students of just about every age group since being in college, and understand how to differentiate instruction between age groups. He received the RSU #20 Service Award in 2015 for his dedication to the district and efforts to bring LEGO® robotics into the district. When not working, he enjoys basketball, hiking, reading, and visiting family and friends.



Jessica Day
Instructor & Technology Instructional Coach
Riverside Elementary, Battle Creek, MI

Jessica Day is a dedicated, resourceful instructor who is committed to bringing unique educational opportunities to her students. She introduces young students to STEM-based projects to motivate them to explore future career paths in this high-demand field. Jessica's passion for technology instruction within and beyond the traditional school day has led her to take on educator roles for *FIRST*® LEGO® League Jr. Robotics, Google Computer Science First, and Bricks 4 Kidz. A regular attendee of the Michigan Association for Computer Users in Learning (MACUL), she brings new technology educational practices back to her staff and supports program implementation for all grade level teachers. Jessica's dedication to student success earned her the Michigan Lottery Excellence in Education Award, the WIN 98.5 Teacher of the Month distinction, and a grant for a 3D printer from General Electric.



Victoria Despres
Special Education Teacher & Department Chairperson
Woodstock Academy, Woodstock, CT

Victoria is a native of New England, the state of Connecticut where she serves students in their high school years to develop academic skills, transitional skills, and cultivate special interests to teach the whole student. She is a lifelong learner as she continues to research professional development best practices, provide opportunities for students to engage in playful learning experiences, and develop a sense of belonging and purpose in their ever changing world.



Anne-Marie DiFranco
Enrichment Teacher
Citizens Academy, Cleveland, OH

Anne-Marie DiFranco is a teacher in Cleveland, Ohio at an urban charter school. Anne-Marie has always loved teaching with technology and recently received the position of enrichment teacher which allows her to use coding and LEGO® Education WeDo kits every day. Anne-Marie provides STEM education to her students through hands-on, engaging lessons.



Maya Donnelly
Computer Science & Robotics Teacher
Rosalind Franklin STEM Elementary School, Pasco, WA

Maya Donnelly is an experienced Computer Science Teacher with a demonstrated history of working in the primary/secondary education industry. Maya is skilled in computer science, robotics, and STEM curriculum design. She is a strong community and social services professional with a master's degree focused in Elementary Education and Teaching from Washington State University Tri-Cities.



Sharon Dudley
Pre-Kindergarten Teacher
Rogers Heights Elementary School, Laurel, MD

Sharon Dudley is a veteran educator with over 20 years of experience in the early childhood field. She is a kindergarten teacher at a Title I school in Prince George's County with a 95% ESOL population. Sharon uses technology to create games and personalized take-home reading books for each child based on their needs and interests. She was featured in a TV news segment for being a blind educator who achieved certification from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards in just one year, and she has served as a mentor for candidates who are aiming to achieve certification themselves. Sharon and her husband enjoy ballroom dancing, going to gaming conventions, and reading books by authors such as Arthur Conan Doyle, Jane Austen, and Alexandre Dumas.



David Dulberger
5th Grade Magnet Teacher
Emma K. Doub Elementary, Hagerstown, MD

David Dulberger is currently a 5th grade magnet teacher and a 1:1 Apple Distinguished School. He attended Salisbury University where he majored in Elementary Education and minored in Psychology. Dulberger completed part of his student teaching internship in Auckland, New Zealand where he taught 5th grade. David is part of the 2015 class of Apple Distinguished Educators, a 2014 PBS Digital Innovator, a Front Row Ambassador, and a SMART Technologies Exemplary Educator. David has presented at a variety of educational technology conferences and events such as SXSWedu and FETC. He continues to deliver professional development for teachers around the world who share his passion for instructional technology. Follow him on Twitter @mrdulberger #5thGradeU.



Julia Dweck
Teacher
Willow Lane Elementary, Macungie, PA

Julia Dweck is a teacher, enriching her students through STEAM, Maker and student-centered learning experiences. She is also a published author, curriculum designer, and winner of the 2017 Da Vinci Science Center STEM Educator Award. Julia is a LEGO® fan, both as a teacher and a creator. She looks forward to learning more from the LEGO® Education Master Educators, one block at a time!



Stacy L. Dzbenski
Librarian / Media Specialist
Lutacaga Elementary School, Othello, WA

Stacy Dzbenski is a K-6 Librarian at a Dual Language school in Othello, Washington. She is currently enrolled at Boise State University in their Ed.S. program in Educational Technology, and will graduate in 2019. Stacy is passionate about STEAM in the classroom and Educational Technology, and has applied to continue in the Ed.D program after graduation. Stacy loves to teach students about robotics and coding and use LEGO® Design Thinking in her classroom. Putting a Makerspace in the library has been amazing and she received an award from her school district for her efforts in STEAM.



Melissa Edmonds
Gifted Education Resource Teacher
Kyle R. Wilson Elementary, Woodbridge, VA

Melissa Edmonds has been working with gifted students at the elementary school level for 12 years and has a passion for teaching them. Prior to becoming a resource teacher, she taught honors and advanced placement physics at the high school level. She enjoys leading professional development in gifted education and in mathematics at her school, in her division, and at state and national conferences.



Kelly Etlinger
Special Education Teacher Multiple Disabilities Grade 4
C. Richard Applegate School, Freehold, NJ

Kelly Etlinger is a Self-Contained Teacher of students with multiple disabilities in the Freehold Township School District. She currently teaches 3rd and 4th grade students. Her goal as their teacher is to help them become more independent and leaders in their community and within their learning. She enjoys watching her students grow and learn new things while sharing their new knowledge with their mainstream peer base.



Maria Gariela Eyzaguirre
Educational Technology Integration Specialist, Cont. Faculty NMU Marquette-Alger Resa Marquette, MI

Originally from Lima-Perú, Gaby teaches the Media and Technology course for pre-service teachers at Northern Michigan University's School of Education, Leadership and Public Service, and is the Instructional Technology Integration Specialist for the Marquette-Alger Regional Educational Service Agency. Gaby has served as the Technology Readiness Infrastructure Grant (TRIG) Regional Coordinator (2013, 2014) and TRIG Ambassador (2015, 2016) for the Rural Northern Michigan Region and is a Consultant for EDUPATHS. Before she moved to Marquette, Gaby worked at the American School of Lima-Perú. She has over 20 years of experience as a teacher, ten of them as the middle school technology coordinator and technology integration specialist. She has also been an FIRST® LEGO® League and World Robotics Olympiad coach. While under her guidance her school's teams ranked among the top three Peruvian National Champions. She has presented on multiple occasions nationally and internationally



Grace Finn
Challenge Teacher & Coordinator
Field-Stevenson School, Forest Park, IL

Grace Finn is a parent, a teacher and an innovator. She puts forth her best to make each day great for all those she encounters. She is a traveler and takes her family on camping adventures with the goal of visiting all of the US national parks (they are halfway there!). She is curious and passionate about many things and works to instill that sense of wonder and engagement in both her own children and in those she teaches.



Lindsay Foster
Learning Technologies Coach
Burleson ISD, Burleson, TX

Lindsay Foster is a passionate educator with 18 years of experience, working with educators and students to implement and integrate technology with fidelity and rigor in the classroom. She is a Google Certified Educator Levels 1 and 2 and a Google Certified Trainer. She believes that there is a tool for every educator and every student to learn how to integrate technology in a meaningful way



Kathy Frears
Teacher
Wiley Intermediate School, Watertown, NY

After graduating from SUNY Potsdam in 1989, Kathy Frears obtained a training position at a National Bank where she was in charge of training all customer service employees. Kathy decided to pursue her Master's of Science in Teaching Degree once her own children were enrolled in school. She accepted a fifth grade position at Wiley Intermediate School and have worked there for 17 years. Besides teaching in the classroom, she has held many other positions including district thoughtful education trainer, FIRST® LEGO® League coach, after school robotics camp leader, mentor teacher, and curriculum adviser.



Mindy Freeman Rosen
STEM Coach
Palmetto Elementary, West Palm Beach, FL

Mindy Freeman Rosen is a career educator specializing in the integration of STEM into the curriculum using robotics, coding and hands-on experiences. Through these learning engagements she supports teachers in a transdisciplinary approach to teaching and learning. Mindy has conducted professional development at both the state and district level using strategies of engagement for both adult and student learners which can be applied to any subject area. As a STEM Coach she helps to infuse STEM into the Interbaccalaureate Primary Years Program. She provide professional development for the teachers and then model and co-teach in the classroom to support the teachers and students in their learning.



Kristen Fulgenzio
Fourth grade teacher
Burgettstown Area Elementary Center, Burgettstown, PA

Kristen is twenty-five years old and in her third year of teaching. She is very passionate about the maker movement and STEM/STEAM education. She created her own after school STEAM club for girls, A.T.T.A. Girl! (ambitious, talented, tenacious, and authentic), to promote gender equality in the STEAM fields. Kristen says that the best part of her job is when a student says the phrase, "Miss Fulgenzio, look what I created!"



Jessica Gafford
Kindergarten Teacher
Northwestern Elementary School, Zachary, LA

Jessica Gafford is a wife and a mother of 3 amazing kids. Her 3 children have taught her more about the world and what it means to be an educator than any class she ever attended. They are each a different type of learner and have such different personalities. For her hands-on learning means getting kids fully into their own learning.



Suzette Gagnon
STEM Coordinator
Christ the King School, Jacksonville, FL

Suzette Gagnon has chosen education as a second career. Recently she has changed from science education to the STEM coordinator for her school. She runs extensive hands on programs through the school and she has a passion for helping guide students to develop a love of science. Suzette runs the engineering lab and coordinate hands on science activities with all grades K-8 (weekly). she conducts PLC meetings with all teachers K-8 and she was also an assistant coach for *FIRST*® *LEGO*® League for 2 years.



Javier Garcia
Math & Robotics Teacher
Boston International Newcomers Academy, Boston, MA

Javier Garcia is in his fourth year of teaching high school students. He is a Mexican American, born and raised in California and is currently teaching mathematics and robotics.



Maria A. Garcia
Elementary Teacher
Hope St. Elementary, Huntington Park, CA

Maria Garcia is an educator with 19 years of experience in upper elementary; primarily in 5th grade. Maria is a lifelong learner and attends professional development opportunities that will build her proficiency so that she can better serve my students in the classroom.



Katie Gardner
Kindergarten / ESL Teacher
Knollwood Elementary School, Salisbury, NC

Katie Gardner has 7 years' experience as a Kindergarten English as a Second Language teacher in Salisbury, NC. She has presented in district, state, regional and national technology, and TESOL conferences. Katie enjoys sharing ways to integrate technology and create innovative and engaging centers for English Language Learners based on the language domains.



Renee Geddings
Math, Science, Social Studies Teacher Grade 5 & Robotics Team Lead Coach
Wren Elementary, Piedmont, SC

Renee currently serves as an elementary math and science teacher. In her prior district, she launched an elementary robotics program under a Magnet Schools of America Grant serving K5-5th graders in a Title 1 school. Renee holds a master's degree in Administration and Supervision from Clemson University. She is an avid supporter of infusing opportunities in the arts, engineering, authentic problem-solving, and creativity throughout her curriculum. Her ambition is to ignite students' curiosity, imagination, and interest in appropriately challenging learning that brings both continuous joy and intellectual growth. Renee was also recognized as the US LEGO® Education Teacher of the Year in 2017.



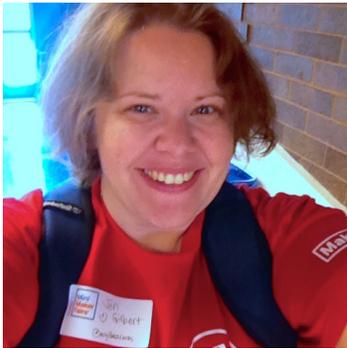
Rebecca Gerdes
Media Specialist & Librarian
Port Allen Elementary, Port Allen, LA

Rebecca Gerdes is currently the Media Specialist at Port Allen Elementary School, serving students in grades K-2nd. She received her Graduate Certification in School Librarianship in May 2018. She enjoys her role as the school librarian because she has the freedom to allow students to learn through exploration using a variety of resources.



Angela Gier
4th Grade Teacher
J.W. Carpenter, Dallas, TX

Angela Gier currently resides in Dallas, Texas and teaches 4th grade math and science at Carpenter Elementary. She just completed her second year in the Kosmos Energy STEM Teacher Institute through the Perot Museum of Nature and Science. Last summer, she was selected to expand her learning at the Honeywell Educators at Space Academy in Huntsville, Alabama. As the Campus Activity Coordinator, she also facilitates the *FIRST*® LEGO® League Robotics Program, University Interscholastic League Academics for Elementary students, Destination Imagination, and Texas Academic Decathlon: Lone Star Challenge.



Jen Gilbert
Teacher, LBS, M.S.
Hyde Park Day School, Northfield, IL

Jen Gilbert is an educator and STEM Specialist currently working in the suburbs of Chicago, IL. As a lifelong learner certified in Early Childhood Technology and working towards a certification in Engineering Education, Jen loves nothing more than partnering with other educators to develop innovative activities that support learning across all disciplines. In addition to social media integration for schools and nonprofits, Jen often provides professional development on individualized learning for adults and students, computer programming and robotics, infusing maker education activities into the classroom and using technology to tell your story. Jen also loves animals and if you ask her about her research on The Science of Flying Dogs™, she will teach you that dogs can fly and physics is a part of your everyday life.



John Giles
Robotics Teacher
Glenridge Middle School, Orlando, FL

John Giles is an old zookeeper turned teacher in Orlando, FL. He has taught K-8, focusing on science and technology. He currently teaches Exploration of Robotics.



Kristy Gilpin
Teacher
Rollins Place Elementary, Zachary, LA

Kristy Gilpin has been a 2nd and 3rd grade teacher in Louisiana schools for the last thirteen years. She earned a Master of Education in 2005 and is currently working toward certification in school librarianship. Kristy has presented at conferences around the country on gifted education, science and social studies content, and most recently on integrating arts with content standards. Kristy is active in several committees at her school and seeks out opportunities to work with teachers and pursue her passions for using technology in education and developing students who are global citizens.



Arielle Goldstein
Technology Facilitator & School Library Media Specialist
West Morris Mendham High School, Mendham, NJ

Arielle Goldstein began her career as an elementary school Computer Teacher and became a School Library Media Specialist shortly after. After over ten years in elementary, she started working as a high school Media Specialist. She has won an award for her Excellence In Technology Education, she sits on the board of two organizations, NJECC and NJASL, and works as a MakerDepot Ambassador. When asked about herself, Arielle describes herself as “not just a teacher but a School Librarian, a Technology Specialist, a Curriculum Writer, a Trainer, and a STEM teacher and organizer.” Her passions involve #makered, reading, dogs, children’s books, and traveling.



Theresa Goltermann
Teacher
Tabb Middle School, Yorktown, VA

Theresa Goltermann is a 30-year veteran teacher of Middle School Science and STEM elective classes. She brought STEM electives to her school district seven years ago by proposing and writing curriculum for the Middle School Engineering and Computer Science Classes. Theresa is committed to personalizing education through choice by using innovative design thinking projects, global collaborations, and educational tech tools such as robots, AR/VR, and digital journals to engage all learners. In addition to her STEM and Career and Tech Ed elective classes. Theresa also coaches extracurricular STEM programs including Girls Who Code, *FIRST*® LEGO® League Robotics, and SeaPerch ROV. She was the 2018 Virginia Region 2 Teacher of the Year.



Becky Gorlin
2nd Grade Teacher/ Robotics instruction
Saint Brendan School, Bothell, WA

Becky Gorlin is a 2nd grade teacher who loves LEGO® and loves sharing that with her class. Becky’s school purchased kits to use and it grew into a huge program. They have a quarter of the school who are part of their after school robotics program that Becky runs and coaches.



Karen Greer
Home School Instructor
Gallatin, TN

Karen Greer is from Nashville, Tennessee. She has a combined 34 years of teaching experience in grades PK-5th and as a school counselor in public schools in Tennessee and in an International school in Shenzhen, China. She currently works with homeschool students and ESL students from China. She has a MS in counseling and a MA in Reading Education from Western Kentucky University. She was a proud member of the LEGO® Education Advisory Panel.



Tzvi Hametz
Director of Innovation and Creativity
Gindi Maimonides Academy, Los Angeles, CA

Tzvi Hametz is the Creativity and Innovation Specialist, Educational Technology Director, and the manager of the Innovation Lab (a Makerspace) at Gindi Maimonides Academy in Los Angeles, CA. Tzvi is a lifelong tinkerer, Maker, learner, and illustrator. Similar to many other Makers, Tzvi got his start by creating LEGO® inventions and repurposing things in his parents' home; even things his parents really wanted to be kept whole. In addition to teaching in the classroom, Tzvi is a teacher and a teacher coach for integrating technology, playful learning, and creativity in the classroom. Tzvi has been working in education for 9 years in and out of the classroom.



Caroline Hanson
STEM Gifted & Talented Teacher
Aspen Middle School, Aspen, CO

Caroline Hanson is a middle school robotics teacher and coach for *FIRST*® LEGO® League teams and *FIRST*® Tech Challenge (FTC). She advocates for STEM education in her district, regionally, and serves on the state tournament planning committee for *FIRST*® Colorado. Caroline supports the gifted and talented program, provides reading enrichment, and co-leads a project and problem-based integrated learning pilot. Coffee, LEGO®, and her family motivate her to expand her thinking.



Erin Theresa Hardy
Second Grade Teacher
Richland County Elementary School, Albion, IL

Erin Hardy is a second grade teacher at Richland County Elementary School in Olney, IL. She is passionate about creative, engaged learning and challenges her students to create with LEGO® and express themselves. Erin enjoys spending time outdoors with her husband, daughter, and their Corgi dog Edna.



Naomi Harm
Women Leadership Coach/Mentor and NGSS and STEM Specialist
Cave Creek Unified School District, Cave Creek, AZ

Naomi Harm is an instigator of STEM innovation, and an educational technology thought leader and influencer. She welcomes every opportunity to share her expertise of women in educational leadership and brain-based instructional approaches, supported with technology literacy best practices with k12 students and educational leaders worldwide. Her current professional facilitated offerings include mentoring young girls and women to pursue passion-driven STEM careers, coding and robotics theme-based literacy activities, global engineering derbies infused with NGSS problem-solving student-centered challenges, modelling women in leadership coaching/mentoring best practices, redesigning classroom learning spaces with the brain in mind to support the student-centered classroom, and maximizing creativity, communication and collaboration with the Google Suite of learning tools infused with student choice and voice media projects.



Scott Hatfield
Technology Teacher / Computer Applications Teacher / School Technology Coordinator
Eastside Middle School, Mt. Washington, KY

Scott Hatfield, a proud educator who has developed the technology curriculum for Eastside Middle School over the last 16 years. In that time, his class and the technology has changed significantly but Scott is passionate about bringing the technological future to his students. He currently teaches a Computer Applications course, a course that encourages students to tinker, explore, and problem-solve using LEGO® Robotics. When not teaching, Scott can be found in his home workshop tinkering or spending time outside with his family.



Jessica Lee Heckman
Engage Teacher
Birmingham Covington School, Bloomfield Hills, MI

Although Jessica Heckman has won a Henry Ford Teacher Innovator of the year prize and has had her classroom featured on edutopia.org, she holds her relationships with her students and colleagues as some of her greatest treasures. For the last five years, she has been teaching Engage STEM classes in Birmingham Public Schools and working on expanding our district's commitment to developing some of the best project-based learning based on innovation and creativity. She is a certified Microsoft Innovative Educator and loves bringing everything from Minecraft to coding and robotics to her classroom. She works to foster an inclusive STEAM environment by starting enrichment clubs for girl's coding, lego robotics and Minecraft clubs. She may have a different color hair every semester but her commitment to creativity and closing the STEM gap never waivers.



Aly Hethcoat
Teacher
Maize Virtual Preparatory School, Maize, KS

Aly Hethcoat has been passionate about Education Technology her entire teaching career. After receiving her MS in Educational Technology in 2003, she created a middle school technology leadership class where students created weekly videos, a school newspaper and assisted teachers with integrating technology into their classroom. For the past 10 years, Aly has been in Virtual Education. She was also the FLL Jr. coach for her son's team. This past year she successfully wrote two grants that funded a LEGO® Robotics Team with over 100 students. In the MVPS LEGO Robotics Team students learn about coding using LEGO® Education WeDo and LEGO® MINDSTORMS® Education robots. Students meet in a live online class, then in person to finish their challenges. This past year, Aly received the Excellence in Education Award for Maize Virtual Preparatory School.



Eric Heuerman
Teacher
Green Park Lutheran School, St. Louis, MO

Eric Heuerman is a former woodworking carpenter who began a second career in teaching at the age of 34. He has a great passion for technology, STEM, and sports. His coaching experiences and love of educating children in all fields help make him the successful and motivated teacher that he is today!



Bruce Hill
Science & Engineering Teacher / CTE Department Chair
Rancho Verde High School, Moreno Valley, CA

Bruce Hill has been an educator for 14 years. Prior to his time teaching, Bruce was in the television and telecommunications industries. Bruce has taught a variety of science disciplines, as well as engineering and robotics. He currently heads the CTE department and is the First robotics competition mentor for the school's robotics club. He has used LEGO® MINDSTORMS® Education for the past 6 years, both NXT and EV3 generations. He focuses on using robots for outreach to connect the high school students with middle school and elementary students. By having the older students assist younger students with programming and operation of the robots, it creates an undeniable link between all grade levels.



Scott Hodges
Director of STEM Development
Kenosha School of Technology, Kenosha, WI

Scott Hodges is the Assistant Principal and Director of STEM Development at KTEC-West in Kenosha, WI. He has been involved with LEGO® Education for the last nine years. He started the LEGO Education programming at KTEC as a 4K-5th Grade LEGO Education teacher. He was a *FIRST®* LEGO League coach for several years as well. He was recognized by LEGO Education twice as the "Teacher of the Month." He was a proud member of the LEGO Education Advisory Panel and is excited to continue as a Master Educator with LEGO Education as he believes that their solutions inspire students!



Robert Holcomb
Lower School Technology Teacher, Robotics Teacher, Technology and Engineering Lead
Providence School of Jacksonville, Jacksonville, FL

Robert Holcomb is an energetic educator and LEGO® lover. His collection of LEGO products and mini figures is a welcoming beacon into his classroom. Robert loves to challenge students with hands on problem solving using a variety of LEGO® Education products. He has two LEGO competition tables in his classroom and loves to show off his student's creativity by having them build race cars and battle bots. Robert is an *FIRST®* LEGO® League Jr. Jr. coach, *FIRST®* LEGO® League Jr. coach, and just signed up to be an *FIRST®* Tech Challenge coach. He's been teaching technology and robotics for 7 years and is dedicated to helping educators gain confidence in using hands on technology in their classrooms. Robert is the department head for the Technology and Engineering department at his school and is very motivated to help others be successful.



Mary Alice Hudson
Design Teacher
Snipes Academy of Arts and Design, Wilmington, NC

Mary Alice Hudson is a National Board Certified Teacher and lifelong learner from North Carolina, who has recently completed a doctoral degree in Educational Technology at Boise State University. The focus of her doctoral research was using educational robotics with elementary-aged students to develop computational thinking skills and an interest in STEM subjects and careers. Mary Alice has recently changed schools and been given the opportunity to put her ideas into action. She is currently teaching Design (a cross between EdTech and STEM) to all of the students in her K-5 Title I school. She is loving the opportunity to help students become knowledgeable and persistent thinkers and creators. Mary Alice's long-term goals are big and ill-defined, but they involve using technology to creating systemic change in K-12 public education.



Lori Huertas
Professor & Research STEM Analyst
Polytechnic University, Orlando, FL

Lori Huertas is an educator and research analyst. She teaches STEM classes and provides support to students. Her teaching philosophy is that all students have the capacity to learn regardless of their age or ability level. By using engaging activities, students are able to grow academically, socially and emotionally. Lori is a bilingual professor, author of the published book, research analyst/student success specialist at Polytechnic University that organized a trip to NASA/Kennedy Space Center for our Engineering students as part of our STEM Objectives.



Jesse Hurlburt
STEAM Plus Teacher
Holmes Elementary School, New Britain, CT

Jesse Hurlburt has a Bachelor's Degree in Outdoor Leadership from Springfield College and a Master's Degree in Elementary Education from the University of New Haven. He has been teaching at Holmes Elementary School in New Britain, Connecticut since 2014. He spent the first three years teaching second grade where he used technology and flexible seating to foster growth in his students both academically and socially. He is currently a STEAM teacher for grades K-5. Jesse has promoted the use of technology throughout his building as a way to grab students attention and to create a positive learning environment, Code.org and LEGO® robotics have been a great way to do that! Jesse was voted 2018-2019 Teacher of the Year for Holmes Elementary School. He has a passion and excitement for learning that he passes on to all the students at his school.



Nadine Jacang
STEM Teacher
Kamehameha Elementary School, Honolulu, HI

Nadine Jacang is a software engineer that made the decision to stay home when she was having her 5 children. She home-schooled her children to allow her family freedom to travel any time of the year to visit family in Hawaii. After moving back to Hawaii, her children have been blessed to attend The Kamehameha Schools. Being active in the Kamehameha community has opened up not only many volunteer opportunities at the school, but it has also allowed her to become a robotics coach and STEM teacher. This position has allowed her to have an impact on the next generation of not only engineers, but doctors, lawyers, teachers, and more.



Michael Jacobson
Library Media Specialist
Legacy High School, Bismarck, ND

Michael Jacobson is a husband and father of two, and has been an educator for ten years in both elementary and secondary. His passion for STEM education has led him in a direction of teaching students with the use of LEGO® Education products. Most notably, Michael has been a *FIRST*® LEGO® League coach/mentor and city-wide volunteer for the past 5 years. He has been invited to and attended the Mickelson Exxon Mobil Teachers Academy, where he learned so much about inquiry based education, and he has recently graduated from Florida State University with his Masters of Informational Sciences degree. Michael's passion for teaching and library media create a perfect bond to host multiple learning experiences through the school's newly developed Maker Space, "The Cyber Hub."



Anna Johnson
K-5 Teacher
Bethlehem Elementary School, Locust Grove, GA

Anna Johnson has worked as a gifted teacher and is currently a STEM teacher. She was fortunate enough to have the opportunity to be the LEGO® Robotics sponsor this year. Anna believes that all students can learn. It is up to educators to discover students' interests in order to develop lessons that meet their needs. She also started a LEGO club at her school because her students love LEGO!



Anthony Johnson
Teacher
Isenberg Elementary School, Salisbury, NC

Anthony Johnson is a fifth-grade science and social studies teacher at Isenberg Elementary School in Salisbury, N.C. He is an Apple Distinguished Educator and TED-Ed Innovative Educator and was selected as Teacher of the Year for the Rowan-Salisbury School System in 2016.



Emily Jones
Data Manager and Director of Innovation
KIPP:Central City Academy, New Orleans, LA

Emily Jones is an innovative education professional with extensive experience in implementing and enhancing technology (at both classroom and regional levels); seeking to transition her professional experience, technical knowledge, and interpersonal and coordination skills from a school setting towards a broader scope in educational technology.



Susan Julio
Gifted Education Teacher
West Navarre Primary School, Navarre, FL

Susan Julio currently works for the Santa Rosa County School District as a Gifted Teacher. She was born in New Orleans but moved to Annapolis, Maryland when she was five so she considers that her hometown. She lives in a lovely, Gulf-front condominium with her husband, son and two ragdoll cats. She has a daughter who is married and works as an art teacher.



Katie Kelley
Teacher
The Rubicon Academy, Conroe, TX

Katie Kelley has been involved with robotics education for over 15 years and worked developing hands-on exhibits and programs for museums as a professional industrial designer. She worked for the University of Houston, *FIRST®* Robotics, Houston Museum of Natural Science, the Indianapolis Children's Museum and Lone Star College. She enjoys bringing technology and design process to her students. For example: teaching technical illustration through drawing and 3D CAD software; exploring 3D printing process and materials; programming with Scratch, JAVA, and Mindstorms; applying engineering concepts and building robots using LEGO® MINDSTORMS® and Tetrax platforms; learning about circuits with LittleBits and MakeyMakey; and coaching robotics competition teams for *FIRST®* LEGO® League, *FIRST®* Tech Challenge, *FIRST®* Robotics Competition, *FIRST®* LEGO® League Jr., Eco-bot, E.A.R.L.Y Robotics and more. She loves to practice yoga, draw, laugh and learn.



Katelyn Kelly
Math/Technology Teacher
Sullivan West CSD, Lake Huntington, NY

Katelyn Kelly has taught math and technology at Sullivan West CSD in upstate New York for 12 years. She teaches three Project Lead the Way courses, Introduction to Engineering Design, Principles of Engineering, and Digital Electronics. Katelyn also provides math support for 7th and 8th grade students. In addition to teaching, she is also the advisor for the LEGO®/Robotics club and the STEM Club. Outside of work, Katelyn enjoys hiking and skiing.



Wesley Kennedy
Gifted Specialist
Athens Intermediate School, Athens, AL

Wesley Kennedy has taught LEGO® Robotics for the past 17 years. As a Crew Trainer for Space Academy for Educators, he presented workshops to teachers for many years on the implementation of LEGO Robotics in the classroom. He has coached a *FIRST®* LEGO® League team for several years and competed at the state level several times. He currently uses LEGO robotics in his Gifted classroom and his students are ready for more challenges.



Greg Kent
Technology Coordinator
Kailua Elementary School, Kailua, HI

Greg Kent was born and raised on the island of Oahu, Hawaii. He is the Technology Coordinator at Kailua Elementary School. He is the IT/Elemakery manager of the school and develops meaningful technology integrated units to co-teach with teachers. Greg wants to empower students to change their world.



Bernard Key
CTE STEM Educator
Rich Township High School SD 227, Matteson, IL

When Bernard is not teaching high school robotics and computer science, he is coaching and mentoring middle school students in his community. Bernard works with inner city high risk youth to engage them in STEM and robotics.



Jennifer Kling
Elementary Technology Teacher
Vernfield Elementary School, Telford, PA

Jennifer Kling realized she had a passion for teaching with LEGO® robotics after seeing its impact on children. When they learn how to read directions, design, build, code, fail and try again, they've learned vital life skills. She is a 2017 Classroom Design Challenge winner, 2016 Apple Education Teacher and grant recipient from numerous foundations including Microsoft, the Souderton Area Education Foundation Innovation awards, James Beard Foundation and Donors Choose. She has coached two teams for FIRST® LEGO® LEAGUE robotics and designed her own after school and summer STEM courses. In the summer, she teaches camp for GEMS (Girls in Engineering, Math and Science) at UPenn. She also volunteers with TechGirls.com. Jennifer has been teaching students and staff how to use technology in the classroom in the for over 15 years. Jennifer is happiest when she is able inspire educators and students to utilize technology solutions that engage and motivate them to live a purposeful life.



Laura Knapp
K-5 Technology Teacher
Gateway Science Academy South Charter School, St. Louis, MO

Laura Knapp grew up in the Midwest and spent most of her adult life in the St. Louis area. She's always had an interest in technology and computer programming, even teaching herself programming languages in her spare time in high school. She's been dedicated as an adult to reach out to children, especially the underserved student population, in order to provide them with challenges and opportunities in science and technology based learning. In her free time, Laura is an avid board game player.



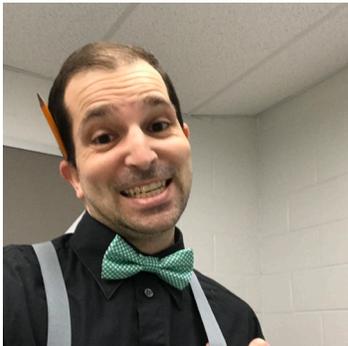
Denis Kogan
Instructional Science Coach
District 75 Citywide Programs, New York, NY

Denis Kogan has been working in District 75 for over 10 years, 7 of which were as a science teacher and laboratory instructor at P753K, The Brooklyn School for Career Development. Currently, he works in the STEM department as the District 75 Science Instructional Coach. He is one of only 183 Space Foundation Teacher Liaisons in the world and the only one in New York City. He uses space-related education programs and principles in the classroom to act as an advocate for space-based education by working with space organizations, such as NASA, the U.S. Space & Rocket Center, and the Canadian Space Agency. He has also been employed at CUNY Brooklyn College, School of Education, as an adjunct lecturer teaching a master level course on Curriculum Modifications and Learning Environments for students with special needs in the Physical/Life Science instructional setting. He also serves on the Special Needs Advisory Board of the National Science Teachers Association (NSTA).



Amy Kuntz
Lead 4th Grade Teacher
Frank E. Schall Elementary, Caro, MI

Amy Kuntz has an undergraduate degree from Huntington University and a master's degree in Educational Technology from Boise State University. She's been teaching at Caro Community Schools, for 17 years. She is a 4th grade lead teacher, technology coach, school improvement science chair, and co-runs a computer coding and simple robotics club that she helped to create. Amy is a Foundation Fellow for Dow Corning and Saginaw Valley State University, a Microsoft Innovative Educator, Apple Teacher, Smithsonian Science Education Academy for Teachers participant, and has spoken at several conferences and workshops on the importance of STEM in education. Amy is passionate about STEM and bringing students new opportunities through grants and partnerships. She is currently working with two Michigan universities on curriculum opportunities, one which will combine virtual reality with their global campuses to expose her students to the world beyond. Follow along with her at thatselementary.weebly.com.



Brian Lachance
School Based Technology Specialist
Keene Mill Elementary School, Springfield, VA

Brian Lachance is in his 7th year as a school-based technology specialist for Fairfax County Public Schools, Virginia. He works with students and teachers daily to bring 21st century learning to all. He is married with a 7-year-old daughter and 4-year-old son. In his free time, he enjoys all sports, particularly running and soccer.



Kimberly Lane Clark
Director of Blended Learning
Lancaster ISD, Lancaster, TX

Kimberly Lane Clark began her career in educational technology 11 years ago gaining experience teaching students in grades K-12 in Mississippi and Texas. She coaches hundreds of educators- both face to face and virtually in Computer Science, Project-Based Learning (PBL), STEM strategies, and Educational Technology. In the latter part of her years in education she also served as a campus technology coordinator. Kimberly has also served as a technology consultant for School House 21 since 2011. She currently serves as a technology consultant for Educate Texas, serves as the city lead for Black Tech Women in Dallas, TX, and she serves as a guest technology consultant for the Global Academic Technology Essentials Teacher Institute at Mississippi State University.



Anne Leak
Assistant Professor of Elementary and Middle Grades Education
High Point University, High Point, NC

Dr. Anne Leak has been a Fulbright Fellow exploring science education in Cameroon, West Africa and has been awarded grants to develop approaches for community-driven and place-based science pedagogy in Kenya. Her research focuses on learning contexts – including curriculum, culture, technology, and environment – as students learn science. Anne endeavors to provide students and future teachers with experiences that allow them to recognize and value cultural aspects involved in science practice in order to improve access to effective and inclusive STEM learning. Part of learning science involves understanding the role of culture, tools, and technology of scientific communities and how they practice science. For learners around the world, the intersections of culture and science dictate how people position themselves as scientists and how their cultural knowledge fits or conflicts with that of scientific communities.



Daniel Lipin
Science Teacher, Robotics Coach & Community
Council Advisor, Hackley School, Tarrytown, NY

Daniel Lipin is a science teacher who loves teaching middle school kids. He is always looking for new challenges to encourage his students to think more deeply about the scientific concepts they are covering. Daniel heavily integrates the engineering design process into his classes and encourages his students to be resilient in the face of failure and keep trying until they succeed. He also LOVES LEGO®, has a TON of LEGO bricks in his classroom (standard and technic) and seeks to integrate it into his classes whenever possible.



Wendy Lizana
Gifted Education Teacher
Bayou View Elementary, Gulfport, MS

Wendy Lizana left her job in the finance world to begin her career in education because she wanted to make a difference. Her hope is to inspire her students to be their own “Sparkitects” where they are in charge of being the spark that creates innovation, creativity, kindness, ingenuity, exploration, and courage. She also wants to inspire her peers to embrace the technological revolution in their classrooms so that the future will be equipped with prepared leaders.



John Long
Technology Program Specialist
School District of Palm Beach County, West Palm Beach, FL

John Long is a learner, educator, integration specialist, grant writer, as well as a learning architect. His primary function is to provide professional development to the over 13,000 teachers in the area of Educational Technology. This includes creating professional learning communities like the MOD Squad, Tech Ambassadors, and Team TLC. John was involved in the grant writing in Palm Beach County that won the 2016 MSAP Grant for \$11.6 million dollars. He is heavily involved in the development and implementation of this grant.



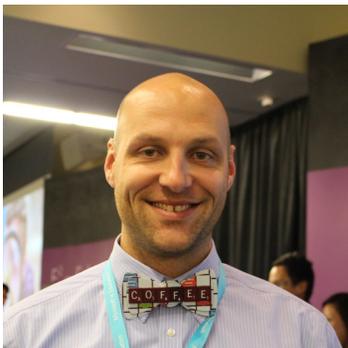
Jacob Luévano
Innovative Learning Specialist
Manor ISD, Manor, TX

Jacob Luevano is a graduate from the University of Texas at El Paso with a degree in Elementary Education. Jacob taught social studies, video production, and emerging technology at the Middle School level for 11 years. Jacob then became a technology coach at an K-5 elementary campus where his love for integrating mobile devices into everyday classrooms began.



Esther Martosoetjpto
Science Specialist Teacher
Curtner Elementary, Milpitas, CA

Esther Martosoetjpto is an attentive science specialist teacher with excellent communication skills. Organized and driven with the innate ability to stay on task. She uses effective and efficient methods of teaching while focusing on the individual needs of each student.



Aaron Maurer
STEM Lead
Mississippi Bend AEA, Bettendorf, IA

Aaron Maurer currently serves as STEM Lead for the Mississippi Bend AEA and is the Founder of the non-profit 212 STEAM Labs, Inc. He served as an Instructional Coach for Bettendorf Middle School. He has been in education for over a decade teaching sixth grade social studies, literature and computer as well as spending many years teaching gifted education in grades 4-8 before becoming an instructional coach. A former *FIRST*® LEGO® League coach for eight years, Aaron is a PBS Digital Innovator, PITSCO Tag Committee, Microsoft Innovator Educator Expert, Skype Master Teacher, Minecraft Global Mentor, and was a finalist for the Iowa Teacher of the Year in 2014. He is an avid fan of STEAM, Makerspaces, and Project Based Learning. In his free time he loves to spend time with his three kids, Aiden, Addyson, and Ava, their new bulldog Frankie May, and acting like the fourth child to his wife Amanda. He is an avid coffee consumer frequently spotted wearing bow ties searching for that perfect cup of joe. Follow him at www.coffeeforthebrain.com, at www.212steamlabs.com/ and on Twitter @coffeechugbooks.



Deborah McAllister
UC Foundation Professor, School of Education
The University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, Chattanooga, TN

Dr. Deborah McAllister is a tenured, UC Foundation Professor in the School of Education at The University of Tennessee at Chattanooga. She joined the UTC faculty in the fall semester of 1993. Previously, she taught at the University of South Dakota, and at the high school level in Kansas and Massachusetts. She is licensed to teach secondary mathematics and biology in Tennessee. She served as Faculty Senate President from 2012 to 2014 and was the 2014 recipient of UTC's Outstanding University Service Award.



Andrew McCormick
Art Teacher and Robotics Coach
Johnston Middle School, Johnston, IA

Andrew McCormick is a tech-infused art teacher from Johnston Iowa. Andrew is passionate about teaching creativity and divergent thought through project-based learning, whether that's through digital arts or robotics. Andrew has been a *FIRST*® LEGO® League, *FIRST*® LEGO League Jr., and *FIRST*® Tech Challenge coach for six years.



James McDaniel
STEM Teacher
Cooper Middle School, Austell, GA

James McDaniel is a teacher who is a student at heart. He loves being innovative and teaching innovatively. His best days are when students have fun while learning. Technology drives the way he designs his instruction as his goal is to decrease the digital divide amongst the students that he teaches.



Amanda McDermott
Elementary STEM Teacher
Montour Elementary School, Pittsburgh, PA

Amanda is a self-motivated teacher and lifelong learner. She seeks out any and all opportunities that she can bring back to build a better learning experience for her students and better herself as an educator. She holds a MS in Instructional Leadership and is certified in K-6th grade Elementary and K-12th grade Technology Education. She believes it is important to take risks in learning and teach her students to do the same. Her belief is that you only truly learn when you reach outside your comfort zone. She has had teaching experiences in both Australia and Aruba prior to starting her career in Pittsburgh. She enjoys spending her summers traveling around the world with her husband to learn about other cultures (her favorite part of the world is Southeast Asia).



Amanda McFee
Science Instructional Coach
District 75 Citywide Programs, New York, NY

Amanda is an educator, who specializes in working with students with special needs. She works for the District 75 STEM Department, focusing on Science and LEGO Robotics. Amanda believes in access for all, and is committed to reaching all students by making learning accessible. She assisted in the development of the District 75 LEGO® 75 EXPO, a partnership with NYC *FIRST*®, using the *FIRST*® LEGO® League Junior model for the last 2 years.



Rebecca McKeithen
Headstart Teacher
West Navarre Primary School, Navarre, FL

Teaching Headstart is Rebecca McKeithen's passion because she serves students living at or below the poverty level in her area, giving them a positive first educational experience that gets to be the foundation of all future learning. Working with the youngest learners, she believes in the education of play, problem solving, and cooperation. She is so proud of the culture of kindness in her classroom that stems from children experiencing love, safety, and fun within the walls they share each day! She is also a wife, mother to two children, and Founder and President of FoodRaising Friends, Inc., a charity that gives children and families at risk for hunger, breakfast and lunch during long breaks from the free breakfast and lunch programs at school.



Mary Meadows
Head of School
Andrews Academy, St. Louis, MO

Mary Meadows was recently appointed Head of School at Andrews Academy Creve Coeur. She has 24 years combined early childhood/elementary classroom and administrative experience. As a doctoral candidate in Webster University's Ed.D. program, Transformative Learning in the Global Community, Mary is completing her dissertation with an emphasis on playful robotics investigations in kindergarten. She has a Master of Arts in Human Resources Development and Management and a Master of Arts in Teaching with emphasis in Educational Technology. Mary enjoys sharing her expertise at education conferences. She is a Discovery Education Network STAR Educator and a member of the PBS Teachers Advisory team. Mary was instrumental in introducing robotics to students and teachers at Villa Duchesne and Oak Hill School while integrating robotics into the K-6 curriculum and serving as a volunteer *FIRST*® LEGO® League coach. Mary enjoys spending time with her husband and three children.



Jenny Miles
Teacher
Emerson Middle School, Pomona, CA

Growing up Jenny Miles always knew that whatever job she would have it would need to be something that she could use her hands. Jenny loves to work with middle school students because they keep her mind young at heart. Jenny believes that students need to be producers not just consumers. Her message to anyone is to pursue your passion, it will keep you afloat during difficult times if you love what you are doing.



Alicia Miller
Early Childhood Educator
Lewiston Elementary School, Evans, GA

Alicia Miller is a military brat who settled down in Evans, Georgia and began her 20-year-and-counting teaching career, dedicated for the last 15 years to inspiring 3rd graders towards a love of all that is science and math. Her passion and rampant curiosity for science and the outdoors overflows into her classroom, you will often find her gathering materials in preparation for the latest project and guiding students towards new discoveries as they create solutions to real-world problems. Mrs. Miller enjoys kayaking, riding motorcycles, and completing home projects with her husband, who is a chemical engineer. Together, they have five children and fourteen grandchildren, with whom she often tests her latest experiments and ideas.



Jennifer Moon
Technology Integration Specialist
Delaney School, Wrentham, MA

Jennifer Moon consistently implements technology into her instruction to enhance student learning while using various types of assistive technology to ensure all students' needs are met. Her hands-on approach to teaching and learning helps students connect to the curriculum while feeling successful and independent. It is Jennifer's goal to combine her years of experience with her ability to be a compassionate, enthusiastic, innovative teacher who will make a positive contribution to her school and community.



Julie Moore
STEM Teacher
Wellington Elementary, Lexington, KY

Julie Moore has taught in Fayette County Public Schools since 2003 and at Wellington Elementary for five years. She earned a Bachelor of Science in Mathematics from Roanoke College, a Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education from Midway College, a Master of Arts in Curriculum and Instruction from the University of Kentucky, and her Literacy Specialist Endorsement at UK. She is a mother of a third grader, Gus, and a first grader, Kate. She enjoys tinkering, painting, and reading.



Joe Moseley
STEM Coordinator
The Cornerstone School, Ocala, FL

Over the past 17 years Joe Moseley has taught science, social studies, and STEM skills. Mr. Moseley has initiated and developed the STEM program by choosing the STEM curriculum, developing the robotics program, and introducing several other technology programs (Girls Who Code, 3D printing, Computer Coding, etc.). He has several certifications in STEM education through Project Lead the Way, organizes and conducts afterschool programs, and organizes three robotics tournaments each year. He was a recipient of the 2018 US LEGO® Education Teacher Award. Joe has a bachelor's degree from the University of West Florida. In his spare time he is an avid Appalachian Trail hiker (1,600 miles done, 600 miles to go).



Carol Munn
Technology Teacher
Eisenhower Intermediate School, Bridgewater, NJ

Carol Munn is a tech-savvy and dedicated technology teacher with over 18 years of career experience in computer science education. Highly adept in providing professional development integrating technology into existing curriculum and creating new lessons to encompass digital technology in all subjects. Carol is skilled in implementing a methodology in project-based learning, responsive classroom, cooperative learning groups, performance assessments, and differentiated instruction. Design and compliment her lessons with high-level engaging learning activities integrating STEM curricula, ISTE and NGSS standards. Carol considers herself a lifelong learner.



Erik Murray
Science and Engineering Teacher
Jonas Clarke Middle School, Lexington, MA

Erik Murray started teaching with LEGO® MINDSTORMS® Education, LEGO® Education WeDo and Simple Machines, which lead to many opportunities for him as a teacher, for a majority of his career he worked with middle school students both in formal and informal education. Recently, Erik presented at conferences on how to implement LEGO® inside the classroom.



Gina Nakahara
Robotics & Technology Teacher
Roy W. Martin Middle School, Las Vegas, NV

Gina Nakahara Robotics / LEGO® / Technology Educational journey started in 2003, her passion for learning stems back to her 21 years of military service. She volunteered as a big sister to a young middle school student and took on the coordinator job of the "Partnership in Education" program - bringing the military and local community together. Gina is a life-long Learner, earning four degrees including my educational specialist post-grad degree. She fully embraces the philosophy that all children can learn. Through the LEGO® Education and Robotics programs she had the opportunity to reach all students in a fun and engaging way.



Bruce Nelson
Robotics & Design Teacher
Indian Creek Elementary, Indianapolis, IN

Bruce Nelson was born in Indiana, raised in California, returned to his roots for college and never left. For as long as he can remember being a teacher was high on the list of things he wanted to be when he grew up. Bruce began working with children in a preschool setting while still in high school and since that time has taught every elementary grade in some fashion, either as a classroom teacher or as a subject area specialist. Besides teaching, he loves to draw (he even has his own comic strip) and loves to read (graphic novels being a favorite). He rekindled his personal interest in LEGO® a few years ago and has found the local LEGO User Group (LUG) to be a valuable resource for experts and ideas. His wife and cat find him mildly amusing.



Elizabeth Nelson
K-5 STEM Teacher
Barrington Community Unit School District #220, Barrington, IL

Elizabeth Nelson is a master teacher and an educational leader passionate about STEM education at the elementary level. In her current role she develops, implements, and evaluates K-5 STEM curriculum and events for her district. Elizabeth's main goal is to grow global leaders ready to solve problems that don't yet exist. She strives to teach her students the cognitive competencies necessary for success, as well as the engineering design process, robotics, and programming. The best part of her day is playing and learning alongside her students!



Jennifer Newby
Teacher
Jacksboro Middle School, Jacksboro, TX

Jennifer Newby has been teaching for 16 years. She has taught both special education and regular education in grades 4-8, English Language Arts and Technology/Robotics. She earned her Master of Educational Technology from Midwestern State University in December of 2008. Her passion is to instill a love of learning in children through the use of a technology rich environment.



Danielle Nicholas
Lead Pre-K Teacher
Primrose School of Burlington, Burlington, MA

Danielle Nicholas was raised just north of Boston in a small town where she found a passion for working with children at an early age. She started her career in Early Education while attending Framingham State College and from there went on to work in childcare facilities helping children learn and develop from infancy to Pre-K. In her spare time she enjoys attending concerts, yoga, crafting, event planning, cooking and traveling!



Nicole Ortiz
Special Education LEGO Robotics Teacher
JHS 227, Brooklyn, NY

Nicole Ortiz has been teaching for over ten years in the NYC Department of Education, and teaching LEGO® Robotics for seven years. She uses a variety of LEGO® Education products including the LEGO® MINDSTORMS® Education EV3, EV3 Space Challenge, NXT, LEGO® Education WeDo, WeDo 2.0, Simple Machines, Simple and Motorized Mechanisms, and the Pneumatic and Renewable Energy Add-On sets. Nicole teaches LEGO Robotics full time to Special Ed. students who never want to leave at the end of the period. Though her students have a range of academic and social disabilities, they are able to learn Science, Math, technology, and engineering skills by thinking creatively, and having fun using LEGO Education products. Nicole thinks the biggest challenge facing her students is being perceived as slow or incapable of learning, because they have learning disabilities. Her Special Education students can learn just like any other student, just in a different way.



Jennifer O'Sullivan
University School Instructor, K-5 STEAM Lab
A.D. Henderson University School, Boca Raton, FL

Jenny O'Sullivan teaches in the K-5 STEAM Lab at A.D. Henderson University School on the campus of Florida Atlantic University in Boca Raton, FL. Jenny teaches a LEGO® mini-elective course that allows students to enhance their LEGO creations with green screen and augmented reality technologies. Recently named the 2020 FAU Lab School District Teacher of the Year, O'Sullivan also has presented on STEAM and technology in the elementary classroom at major education conferences including FETC and ISTE. She currently serves on the National Science Teachers Association's Technology Advisory Board. Jenny is also the proud mother of three.



Brandon Peaster
Teacher
Randolph Howell Elementary, Columbia, TN

Brandon Peaster has taught for 12 years, with the last 8 being with Maury County Public Schools. Brandon is currently teaching third grade at Randolph Howell Elementary School. Brandon is blessed with an administration that allows him to explore and learn to use new technology and learning strategies. In his classroom, he tries to incorporate hand-on learning into every assignment.



Sarah Petersen
Innovative Learning Facilitator
Anchorage School District, Anchorage, AK

Sarah began her teaching career in Alaska in the fall of 2004. After being awarded a technology grant in 2006 and receiving equipment for her classroom, she was inspired to return to school and earn her Master of Educational Technology. In 2009, Sarah left the classroom and joined a district level position to support teachers in technology integration. She currently works as a K-12 STEM Science teacher expert for the Anchorage School District.



Amanda Peterson
Campus Instructional Technology Specialist (CITS)
Lamar CISD, Rosenberg, TX

Amanda Peterson was born and raised in Milford, Iowa, where she graduated from Okoboji High School. She went on to Northwestern College in Orange City, Iowa, where she graduated with a BA in Elementary Education with an endorsement in Multicategorical Resource Mild. She was a K-5 Resource Room Teacher at Jackson Elementary in Lamar Consolidated Independent School District for 8 ½ years, before she became a Campus Instructional Technology Specialist (CITS) at Lamar CISD. She has a wonderful husband who is a CITS for Lamar CISD, and a son who is in 7th grade. She enjoys sewing, crafting and spending time with friends and family in her free time



Sarah Phelps
Elementary Computer Science Teacher
C.A. Henning Elementary School, Troy, IL

Sarah attended Southern Illinois University in Edwardsville where she earned a bachelor's degree in Elementary Education in 2008. She went on to earn her master's degree from the University of Scranton in Curriculum and Development in 2012. Sarah taught in a 4th grade classroom for 8 years before becoming the elementary computer science teacher for students in 4th and 5th grade district-wide. She has a passion for STEM education and helping her students find the joy in learning.



Marie Phillips
Third Grade Teacher
St. Peter's Catholic School, Columbia, SC

Marie Phillips is a 14-year veteran teacher at St. Peter's Catholic School. She aims to bring an open mind, a positive attitude, and a bright smile to the classroom each day. Through a hands-on teaching method and innovative style, she creates an atmosphere that is not only academically rigorous, but morally and spiritually guided to provide the best educational experience for each student. Marie not only uses LEGO® solutions in her classroom but has inspired other teachers to be creative and innovative using LEGO solutions in theirs. Marie is a proud wife and mother of three beautiful children and while she loves to be creative in all aspects of her life, she also has a deep sense of service to others.



Candida Plotkin
Teacher
Cesar Chavez Elementary School, Greenfield, CA

Candida Plotkin has been a pioneer using the LEGO® Education WeDo kits with her 3rd grade class. Her district just began implementing LEGO Education kits with all students in grades 2-6, and built LEGO Innovation Labs at four elementary sites. Candida's students have been so successful that they were featured in a presentation at a CETPA conference with GUSD and LEGO Education. Her students have been "LEGOneers" putting on demonstrations for parents so they can see what their kids are learning. Candida believes working with LEGO® Education WeDo kits has been beneficial for her students because the model making and coding allows them to apply what they've learned in a concrete, hands-on manner. LEGO helps her students build self-confidence as it offers an even playing field where students who are not as strong in English, reading, or math can show creativity and ingenuity when collaborating with others. The LEGO "spark" has ignited a deeper passion for science with Candida, as the Science Lead at her school next year, she is working on helping other teachers tap into this amazing resource!



Isaiamuthu Prem Sankar
Robotics & Afterschool teacher
Vidyarambh, Cupertino, CA

Isaiamuthu Prem Sankar teaches robotics and she also teach in summer camps using LEGO® Education WeDo sets and LEGO® MINDSTORMS® Education EV3. She believes that hands-on learning is all about taking the theory learned in class and trying to apply that the real life. Learning from using those concepts in practical scenarios determines the basis for hands-on learning. She start off with investigation activities before lessons for the students to figure out connections and problems on their own, and then use my lesson as a tool for them to use to solve or link to their activity.



Terry Price
Teacher
Desert Pines High School, Las Vegas, NV

Terry Price is a passionate teacher who loves to learn and lead by example. Terry is pursuing a National Board Certification this year as well as adding additional Robotics courses to her teaching schedule. She believes in the LEGO® model of having fun while learning.



Derrick Ramsey
STEM coordinator/ Teacher
Smylie Wilson / Lubbock ISD, Lubbock, TX

Derrick Ramsey has been in education for 11 years, and has taught everything from Kindergarten to college students through out his tenure in education. He is always looking to 'hack' education to make it fun and engaging for students and make meaningful experiences with all of his lessons. He volunteers and works with a variety of schools, science museums, and colleges to bring STEM education to under represented groups, and help provide pathways for student success. Additionally he coaches many different robotics teams, and works with a variety of schools and groups to put together some amazing STEM competitions for students to test their skills. He is passionate about coding, robotics, engineering, 3-D printing, and Texas BBQ.



Scott Reece
Technology Education Teacher
Teasley Middle School, Canton, GA

This is Scott Reece's 23rd year of teaching middle school in his hometown. Scott lives just 3 miles from the home that he grew up in and this is his community. After spending sixteen years teaching middle school math and social studies, he was given the opportunity to move to the technology lab and he has never regretted the move! This is where he was introduced to LEGO® MINDSTORMS® Education and found the passion for teaching that he remembered from his early years as an educator. LEGO® have become a daily part of his classroom from building Simple Machines to coding with the MINDSTORMS robots. Scott loves that his job is getting kids to learn from play and become problem solvers.



Peggy Reimers
Director of Professional Development
TCEA, Austin, TX

Peggy Reimers is a Director of Professional Development with TCEA. She facilitates professional development with G Suite for Education, mobile learning devices, robotics, makers, and other current technology trends. Formally a public school teacher, she shared her passion for technology and her creative, hands-on approach with elementary students for 26 years. Peggy earned her M.S. in Educational Technology from Lesley University and her B.S. in Elementary Education from the University of Montana – Billings. Her superhero ability is figuring out which LEGO® minifigure is hiding in the little foil-sealed packages.



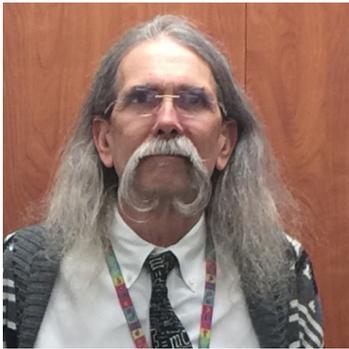
Amanda Reulet
Media Specialist
Lukeville Upper Elementary School, Brusly, LA

Amanda Reulet has worked as a Media Specialist since 2013. During that time, she has slowly been transforming her library space to incorporate a Makerspace. Amanda enjoys sharing her trials and tribulations with that experience with other educators. She is in constant search for new and innovative lessons and activities for her students.



Breigh Rhodes
Gifted Teacher
Zachary Community School District, Zachary, LA

Breigh Rhodes teaches elementary students and also works with fellow educators by developing curriculum and providing professional training in the Zachary Community School District. Breigh holds a Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education and a master's degree in Gifted Education. From observing penguins on an expedition in Antarctica as a Grosvenor Teacher Fellow to studying Renaissance greats in Italy and Paris with Fund for Teachers, Breigh is always exploring innovative pathways for inspiring and empowering learners through student-centered, authentic projects and experiences. Honors for her exemplary work in science education include the Council for Elementary Science International's Essie Beck Rising Star award and the 2011 Disney's Planet Challenge national grand prize.



Scott Richards
Certified K-12 Special Education Teacher
Sigler Elementary, Plano, TX

Scott Richards is a 551,880+ hour old retired architect, and has been a Special Education Teacher for the last 16 years. He practiced architecture for 25 years and led his own architectural firm for 13 years after graduating as the Alpha Rho Chi Medal recipient from the University of Arkansas. He transitioned to teaching within six months of closing his architectural practice by choice and not circumstances. Scott passionately pursues teaching each day applying his knowledge and skills of teaching, while layering in his experiences of architecture, design thinking, problem solving, photography, technology and now LEGO® robotics.



Tonya Robbins
General Education Teacher K-6
Reeds Elementary, Lexington, NC

Tonya Robbins is 46 years old and in a profession that she loves and have dreamed about since she was a little girl. Tonya was a stay at home mom until both her girls started school and then she worked in the school system and went back and got her teaching degree. Dreams may not always come true when or how we expect, but they do come true in ways beyond what we imagined. Tonya has a grandson in the school where she teach and she loves coming to work every day.



Jennifer Rodabaugh
STEAM Lab Teacher
Lansdowne Elementary, Lexington, KY

Jennifer Rodabaugh started her teaching career at the age of 22. She has taught kindergarten, first, second and third grade students. Five years ago, she opened up a STEAM lab on her elementary campus and a whole new world of technology, engineering and project-based learning opened up for her.



Amy Leigh Rogers
Lecturer, Curriculum & Instruction
Tennessee Technological University, Cookeville, TN

Amy Leigh Rogers is a lecturer working with preservice and inservice teachers at Tennessee Technological University in Cookeville, Tennessee. Before transitioning to the collegiate level, she spent eight years teaching elementary school. As a professional, she spends time searching for text that can inspire students to grow in their own knowledge and self-confidence as readers while experiencing curriculum across various content areas. When away from work, Amy Leigh loves to spend time with her husband, Ryan and their daughter, Janie Mai.



Michele Rogers
Innovation Lab Teacher
Conover Road Elementary, Colts Neck, NJ

Michele Rogers has been happily teaching for 25 years. She is thrilled that her position for the last 3 years has been in an Innovation Lab, as she loves that she is able to have her students learn through hands-on experiences. Michele is currently the assistant director for the school show, She is a member of the School Safety Committee as well as the School Climate Committee, and she has mentored students for the NJSBA STEAM Tank competition. Michele is Conover Road Elementary School Teacher of the Year in 2014. When she is not teaching she can be found reading a book, baking desserts, or at the beach with her husband and 2 teenagers.



Maura Rojas
Elementary Teacher
Hope St. Elementary, Huntington Park, CA

Maura Rojas' mom immigrated to California from Mexico when she was 6. Maura was raised in East Los Angeles by a single mom of 13 children. She is a product of the Los Angeles Unified School District and hard-working family. Maura became a teacher to give back to the community. She is now a proud parent of two gifted children (UC Davis Honor's Program and Lakewood High School Merritt's Scholar Program).



Chrissy Romano
Teacher
Nellie K. Parker Elementary School, Hackensack, NJ

Chrissy Romano is a 4th grade teacher in New Jersey with over 26 years of experience in elementary and middle school. She is dedicated to teaching the whole child, stimulating and supporting innovation in classrooms, and strives to provide authentic learning experiences for her students. Her true passion lies in nurturing the quiet kids, those that tend to fall through the cracks, those that truly need a champion to support and advocate for them. Chrissy graduated from Rutgers University with a double major in sociology and psychology and went on to complete the teacher certification program and earned a Masters in Counselling from William Paterson University. She speaks on the topics of SEL, innovation, STEAM, and Google tools across the US.



Travis Russell
STEAM Lead Teacher
Chatsworth School, Reisterstown, MD

Travis Russell is an avid reader and lifelong learner. He believes all students should be challenged and cared for each day. Each students should be given equal and equitable opportunities to meet high expectations. Travis believes if he shows up each day engaged and excited about his lessons that his students will benefit and return the energy. He also believe that hands-on learning is very beneficial to his students and one of the best strategies for learning. Travis enjoys being outdoors and working with his hands around his house to improve or fix things. Travis love spending time with his friends and family.



Ali Schilpp
Media Specialist
Northern Middle School, Accident, MD

Ali Schilpp was five years ago the first and only library media specialist to work at Northern Middle School, Ali tapped into her more than 12 years of library experience to create an engaging, technology-driven space. Ali expanded learning beyond her rural community by sharing LEGO® Travel Buddy, a digital citizenship library program that fosters global connections. Ali is a *FIRST*® LEGO® League coach and continuously seeks new opportunities to challenge her students - from writer's workshops, and STEAM events, to collaborations with notable authors. Ali is SLJ and Scholastic's 2018 School Librarian of the Year.



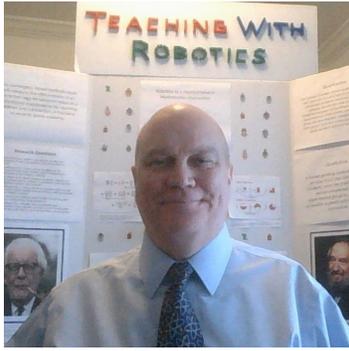
Rebecca Schnekser
Lower School Science and Technology Specialist
Cape Henry Collegiate, Virginia Beach, VA

Rebecca Schnekser is a passionate educator who strives to create authentic, application-based experiences for her students. She believes that students must "do" in order to learn, especially when speaking of science, engineering, and design. She has been teaching and learning for 13 years in the education world in both public and private schools. Rebecca also believes in sharing information and using social media as a tool in order to do this.



Kathleen Schofield
Executive Director
Northeast Florida Regional STEM2 Hub, Fleming Island, FL

Kathleen holds a master's in STEM education, and a certificate in educational leadership. She's a doctoral candidate researching the impact of administrative leadership on instructional quality in STEM. She's a LEAD STEM Fellow working to advance STEM policy nation-wide. She has presented at state and national conferences and been published in multiple peer-reviewed journals. Previously she was the STEM Supervisor for the Clay County School District, serving over 36,000 students in 41 schools, developing nationally recognized STEM and robotics programs. She led development of both district and regional partnerships with Code.org. She's written and implemented over \$14 million in competitive grants. Kathleen serves on teams for district systems accreditation, and STEM school accreditations. She's a national consultant in lesson study focused on shifting instructional practices in math and science towards an inquiry-based, cross-curricular learning environment.



Leonard Sheehy
Technology Teacher
Randolph Middle School, Randolph, NJ

Dr. Leonard Sheehy is a technology teacher at Randolph Middle School in Randolph, New Jersey where he currently teaches robotics, computer programming and crime scene investigation classes. Dr. Sheehy is also employed by the United States Army as a STEM instructor working with scientists and engineers to develop and implement hands-on, state of the art lessons and activities for the camp located on the base at Picatinny Arsenal. He earned a Doctorate in the Educational Technology Leadership at New Jersey City University writing his dissertation on robotics as a mathematics manipulative. Dr. Sheehy specializes in the implementation of hands-on, real-world activities for the application of academic content in all subject areas.



LeAnn Simmerman
Teacher of the Gifted
J.E. Woodard Elementary School, Columbia, TN

LeAnn Simmerman is a proud Tennessean with deep roots in her faith and her passion for education. When she is not challenging gifted students or finding new avenues for their advancement, you will find her with her husband and their four children. She believes in kindness and generosity and excellence.



Joseph Slifka
Technology Teacher
LaBrae Local School District, Leavittsburg, OH

Joe Slifka is a 2007 Youngstown State University graduate with a BS in Middle Childhood Education with concentrations in mathematics and science. He earned his MA in Teaching and Learning in K-12 Technology Integration from Nova Southeastern University in 2011. Mr. Slifka's accomplishments include receiving a \$13,000 grant to start a robotics club from the Toshiba America Foundation in 2014, \$6,500 from the Dominion Education Partnership to supply an environmental technology class with STEM supplies, and being selected as one of 50 educators from a nationwide pool to attend the Siemens STEM Institute in 2011. He was awarded a \$500 Creative Classroom grant twice from WKBN (once as a teacher at Liberty High School in 2011 and again in 2015 as a teacher for LaBrae) and was named a Turning Technologies Distinguished Educator in 2010. He and his wife Deanna have three daughters and reside in Youngstown, OH.



Patricia Smeyers
Fifth Grade Teacher
Clarendon School, Secaucus, NJ

Patricia Smeyers is a passionate STEM advocate for our children of all levels, both online and through organizations. Patricia has been teaching in the Secaucus School District since 1993 and has been honored as the 2019 NJ State Teacher of the Year Finalist and Hudson County Teacher of the Year. Patricia integrates technology to drive STEM instruction, fostering a deeper level of learning through inquiry, discovery, creating, and refining real-world projects. She holds a Master of Education Technology and is life long learner through many international and national organizations. Patricia believes all students should shoot for the moon, dream big, and always show compassion and kindness throughout their educational and workforce journey.



Jeanne Smith
Building Tomorrow Project Implementation Coach
Enfield Public Schools, Enfield, CT

Jeanne Smith has been a teacher of young children for the past 24 years in Enfield, CT where she grew up and still lives. Teaching is not just a job for her. Along with raising her daughter, it is her life's work. Besides teaching, she enjoys traveling with her husband, cooking and books, books, books. She is passionate about horses and cannot imagine her life without them or a couple of cats.



Steve Springer
Physical Educaton teacher, Tech Coach
Rhea Elementary, Paris, TN

Steve Springer has been teaching physical education for 11 years and has been working with LEGO® Education WeDo at camps in the summers at Murray State University for 9 years. Steve wants to be a Master Educator because, "I love teaching kids, LEGO® and when a child "gets it" for the first time, seeing their face and eyes light up is so fulfilling and rewarding for both me and the student."



Matt Staggs
Computer Science Teacher
Bowling Green Junior High School, Bowling Green, KY

Matt Staggs is a computer science teacher who got his start in education by teaching 6th-grade science at Franklin-Simpson Middle School. His focus on hands-on/engineering learning geared him up for his next adventure of running a Makerspace for Simpson County Schools where he ran many LEGO® robotics teams and organized many activities centered around tinkering and doing. Matt's philosophy is that the best way to learn is to do and that is the way he leads his class. Now in a Computer Science class, students make websites, animations, games in addition to building and programming robots using LEGO® MINDSTORMS® EV3.



Darcie Startz
Science Teacher
Dean Leaman Junior High, Fulshear, TX

Darcie Startz is a 6th grade science teacher and *FIRST*® LEGO® League coach. She has 14 years of experience in teaching math and science in grades 6-8. She integrates technology in the classroom regularly and implemented several coding and robotics units. Darcie put together a coding and robotics camp, and she runs both a coding club and *FIRST*® LEGO® League afterschool program on her school's campus. She has a passion for sparking creativity in students and teaching them to reach beyond what they see themselves capable of. She believes in the necessity to integrate technology into classrooms to meet the growing demand for independent thinkers and move from a teacher centered classroom to student centered. Her primary objective is teaching innovation skills like critical thinking, problem solving and creativity along with skills in engineering. "As educators, it is our responsibility to create experiences in our classrooms that will foster the growth and development of 21st century thinkers."



Hermelinda Talley
Instructional Media Specialist / FLL coach
Ellen Ochoa at Ben Milam Elementary, Grand Prairie, TX

This is Hermelinda Talley's third year teaching as a bilingual/ESL instructor and first year as an instructional media specialist in Grand Prairie TX. Working in a Title 1, she has coached *FIRST*® LEGO® League for the fourth year and this last year her team won first place in qualifiers. She has been using Simple Machines to teach STEM and she loves coaching a new robotics team made up from students from the whole district every summer. "I love looking for new fun technology that challenges the students to grow problem solving skills and keeps them engaged."



Joey Tanaka
EdTech & Robotics Specialist
Bertschi School, Seattle, WA

Joey Tanaka is an EdTech and Robotics Specialist in the picturesque Capitol Hill area of Seattle. From humble roots fielding an *FIRST*® LEGO® League team in 2nd to last place (the last place team went home!), Joey has always felt technology and robotics teaches us more than we realize about what it means to be human. Joey has focused his career on inspiring those around him, knowing that EdTech can revolutionize learning. Joey spent 13 years in the classroom, connecting kids with innovative, tech-infused opportunities that thoughtfully raised social awareness. This led to recognition by the city mayor, the state governor, and adoption of those ideas by graduate school education programs. Joey has won Gates Foundation grants for technology, co-presented at the LEGO® Headquarters in Denmark and has earned numerous titles and certifications in his 8 years at his current role. Joey always reminds people that tech is nothing without heart.



Deborah Taylor
Teacher
Central School, Milton, FL

Deborah Taylor is a teacher, mother and wife. She began her career in business, and then she found her passion in working with the Head Start Program. She began as an ERSEA Specialist for Head Start and transitioned to educating Pre-K students. She is now teaching Pre-K students at Central School in Milton, FL. She enjoys creating lessons for her students as they learn and explore. Many of her lessons take little learners to the next level through tactile experiences and learning opportunities leading them to real world experiences and expectations. She lives in the Sunshine state and enjoys going to the beach.



Sherri Taylor
Robotics Teacher
Summit Public Schools, Redwood City, CA

Sherri Taylor's background in tech eventually brought her to LEGO® robotics. She earned her BS in Computer Engineering with a computer hardware focus at the University of Michigan. Sherri started her career in Massachusetts, then moved to California to work on the first UltraSparc. Many startups later she started her family, which took her out of the workforce. When Sherri's children started school, Sherri began the first robotics afterschool program at her daughter's school. They used LEGO® Education WeDo for grades K-3, and LEGO® MINDSTORMS® Education NXT for grades 4-5 and formed a competitions team with *FIRST*® LEGO® League. When her children moved to middle school, Sherri led the effort of bringing FLL into their school by coaching two seasons and continuing her robotics afterschool program. Sherri is currently teaching Robotics Expeditions at four of the high schools in Summit Public Schools.



Dan Thomas
Technology Teacher
Southwestern Central School District, Jamestown, NY

Dan Thomas is an avid user of technology and technology tools to enhance student achievement and success. Dan teaches multiple grade levels of students and have a unique skill set that allow him to teach many different concepts and curriculum.



John Thomas
Classroom Teacher
Wells Memorial School, Harrisville, NH

John Thomas is an elementary educator as a second career and now has his principal's certification and was a part time principal before returning into the classroom. John is a passionate educator who utilizes hands-on methods and technology for educating children. He is a part-time blogger and community facilitator for Edutopia.org and has incorporated flexible seating methods in his classroom for over 12 years.



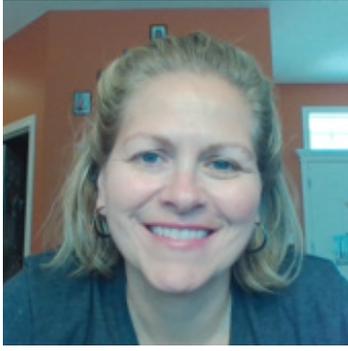
Rita Thurston
K-5 STEM Teacher
North Barrington Elementary School, North Barrington, IL

Rita Thurston is an elementary STEM Teacher in Barrington CUSD 220, located in the northwest suburbs of Chicago. Teaching since 2011, Rita initially was a middle school science, math and STEM teacher prior to taking on her current role at the elementary level. Prior to teaching, Rita was a Materials Engineer and worked for several years in research and development in industry. Rita's passion is to help students in grades K-5 develop an interest and identity in STEM through hands-on, inquiry-based lessons in engineering, robotics and programming. She thoroughly enjoys teaching the engineering design process to students ages 6-11 as well as helping them develop the communication, collaboration, creativity and critical thinking skills, as well as perseverance, to be the problem-solvers and leaders of the future.



Sarah Tierney
Program Specialist, Professional Development
Marion County Public School, Ocala, FL

Sarah Tierney is a mom to a LEGO® maniac and a lifelong learner and educator. She has spent the last twenty years working toward creating equitable learning opportunities for minority students and students who are from low socioeconomic backgrounds. As a district-level educator, she has fielded the opportunity to shepherd programs that could create life-changing opportunities to students in their most high-needs communities.



Laura Travis
3rd Grade Teacher
Wheatland Elementary, Wichita, KS

Laura Travis is a wife, mother of two, and has a love of learning. She is always striving to learn new things and better herself both personally and professionally. She enjoys running, spending time with her family, quilting, and reading when time allows.



Amy Trujillo
Instructional Coach
Orlando Science School, Orlando, FL

Amy Trujillo is the Instructional Coach of a STEM K-6 school, Florida Association for the Gifted (FLAG) Public Relations Chair, and Florida Association of Science Teachers (FAST) Area Five Director. She will become the FAST President Elect at the upcoming annual conference. During her teaching experience, she has taught at the college level and online for adults and has been a grade level classroom teacher, a teacher of the gifted, an ELL teacher, curriculum coordinator, and instructional coach. She has organized and presented at conferences, written articles, and is recognized as a Google Certified Educator Level One, BrainPOP Certified Educator, and PBS Learning Media Digital Innovator. She has worked in education for almost 20 years to ensure that the needs of diverse learners are being met and all students have an equitable educational experience.



Denise Turner
Elementary Educator
Troth Street Elementary School, Jurupa Valley, CA

Denise Turner has been teaching 33 years, most of them in California for the Jurupa Unified School District in Riverside. She has taught all grades from kindergarten through eighth, and has experience teaching students with varied backgrounds, including gifted and talented students, English learners, special education students and students from low socio-economic family households. At home, her hobbies include genealogy, sewing, gardening, and spending time with her daughter, son and husband.



Elizabeth Vaith
Teacher
Big Lake Elementary, Mount Vernon, WA

Elizabeth Vaith has been married for 25 years and has 3 beautiful children: Alexander (24), Angelina (15) and Amelia (15). Her husband and their children made the commitment eight years ago to become foster parents and welcomed Angelina six years ago to their family. Her adoption was finalized in May 2018. Elizabeth grew up in Washington State, moved to Virginia after high school to be a nanny and then traveled to Minnesota for college. After she married her husband Bill, they moved to Arizona for Bill's terminal degree in art. In 1997 they moved back to Washington to raise their children. Outside of teaching, which is a true passion for her, Elizabeth enjoys camping, fishing, hiking, riding motorcycles, and reading, but most of all spending time with her family.



Jill VanWey
Preschool Educator
St Mary's Elementary, Pittsburg, KS

Jill VanWey is an early childhood educator with a background in special education and holds a bachelor's degree in Speech Pathology. Her husband's name is Craig and together they have two daughters. Gardening, home design, reading and walking her dog are her favorite hobbies. Jilly VanWey was nominated as one of three finalists for Educator of the Year 2018 in Crawford, Kansas.



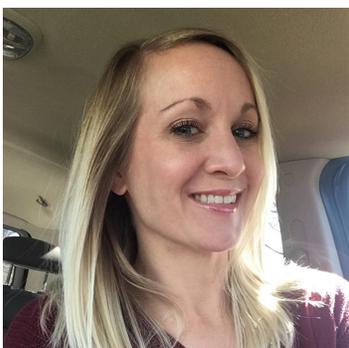
Betsy Vela
Librarian and Instructional Technologist
Lyford CISD, Lyford, TX

Betsy Vela is a 20 year educator that has taught a variety of educational technologies to K-12 students and supported teachers as an instructional technology coach. Betsy loves building student leaders and sharing ideas with educators across the globe. Betsy's current role of librarian merges her strengths of information literacy and technology. When she is not figuring out new technology, you can find her under a pile of LEGO® or books.



Teresa Vera
Education Specialist, Resource Specialist Program
Kingsley Elementary, Pomona, CA

Teresa Vera is a Special Education teacher who has embraced the idea of hands on learning experiences for her students because she has found that is how they learn best. She is also a technology specialist who is always trying to find the best technology to support in the classroom. LEGO® has changed the way she teaches and she is so glad to have incorporated it into her teaching.



Jenny Walker
Teacher / STEM Specialist Teacher
Randolph Howell Elementary, Columbia, TN

Jenny Walker has been an elementary teacher for 6 years. Jenny has a passion for STEM and recently completed her master's degree with a concentration in STEAM. She has been chosen to be the STEM teacher at her school next year and she is so excited to share her passion with students from pre-K through 4th grade. Jenny will be an integral part of helping her school become a Tennessee STEM designated school.



Kareen Wilkinson
Science Teacher
Lilla G Frederick Middle School, Boston, MA

Kareen Wilkinson has been passionate about education since the days she served as a peer tutor in her middle school math class. As a Boston Public Schools teacher for the past 7 years in science, she strongly believes in hands-on learning and igniting the curiosity of the world to her students. She has served as the school robotics coach for the past 5 years and is passionate about coding, engineering and how it prepares students for a digital and tech-savvy world and workforce.



Joe Williams
STEM Instructor
Revere Middle School, Akron, OH

Joe Williams is a grade 6-8 STEM Instructor at Revere Middle School. Joe has been teaching STEM/Technology Education in the classroom for 23 years. He loves the endless learning possibilities LEGO® MINDSTORMS® Education EV3 brings to the classroom. Joe loves teaching students science, engineering and math through hands-on programs like the with EV3. Joe has 2 children, a wife and 4 cats. In his free time he can be found watching sports or coaching baseball, track and the middle school Soap Box Derby teams.



Kristin Williams-Luthi
Teacher
Harbins Elementary, Dacula, GA

Kristin Williams-Luthi is an accomplished and driven professional with a highly enthusiastic and unmatched drive. She is a self-directed, action-oriented professional with over 10 years of experience as an educator. She passionately provides her students with rigorous instruction focused on STEM integration and robotics. Mrs. Luthi is actively involved in Georgia FIRST® LEGO® League and serves as both a coach and judge. She also directs a GIRLS STEM Summer Camp which provides girls the opportunity to engage in STEM, coding and robotics.



Marilyn Miracle Williams
Gifted/ Enrichment Specialist
Tavan Elementary School, Phoenix, AZ

Marilyn Miracle Williams has been an educator for 33 years teaching kindergarten through 5th grade. She was also a Professional Development Specialist serving teachers in her district. Marilyn holds a Bachelor of Arts in American Studies with an emphasis in American History/ Literature, an Elementary Education certification, a Master of Arts in Early Childhood, a Gifted Endorsement, and has been a Nationally Board Certified Teacher since 2010. Marilyn currently serves as a Gifted/Enrichment Specialist, where she utilizes LEGO® Education solutions with her classes. Marilyn has received numerous honors including the Tribune Newspaper Educational Leadership Award, Scottsdale Charros Outstanding Educator Award, Arizona STEM Superhero Award Finalist, and the FIRST® LEGO® League Coach/Mentor Award.



Julie Willie
Teacher of Gifted Students
Aspen Elementary School, Aspen, CO

As a teacher for the last 25 years, Julie Willie strives to light a fire within each child. Her hope is that each student will be enriched by exposure to rigorous tasks and empowered through success. She tries to model living a meaningful life in her own community through her occupation and lifestyle. Living in the Roaring Fork Valley has allowed her to get out into the back country, which she cherishes. When she is not teaching she is usually skiing, riding her bike, hiking and/or advocating for the preservation of public lands.



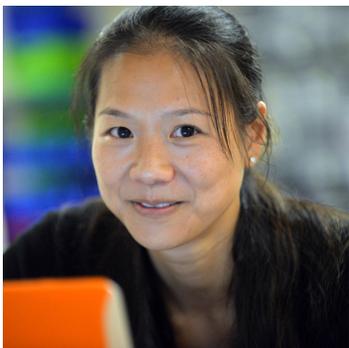
Traci Wood
Kindergarten Teacher
Cottonwood Elementary, Andover, KS

Traci Wood spent 5 years as a para educator, and then 9 years in first grade. Traci has spent this past year in kindergarten and she love teaching littles! (K-2). Traci loves learning new things and bringing technology, creativity and the world into her classroom. Traci is Ambassador for Seesaw and GoNoodle.



Kathleen Wright
STEM Specialist
Richard J. Murphy K-8, Boston, MA

Kathleen Wright began teaching elementary students over 20 years ago. Approximately eight years ago, an engineering professor from Tufts asked if she would pilot some engineering lessons in her classroom. She was hooked! STEM became her passion, and she is proud to say that she is the first STEM teacher to be hired in the City of Boston. She loves what she does, and her students love coming to her class.



Huijing Wu
Engineering & Robotics Specialist
Eliot K-8 Innovation School, Boston, MA

Huijing Wu is in her ninth year of teaching robotics, her fourth at the Eliot School. Prior to the Eliot, Ms. Wu taught at the Sarah Greenwood School for five years after completing her Boston Teacher Residency. Before teaching, Ms. Wu worked for seven years at Analog Devices, Inc as a Product Engineer then Marketing Engineer. Her educational background includes a B.S. and M.S. in Electrical Engineering from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst and a M.Ed. in Elementary Education from the University of Massachusetts, Boston.



Christine Zaremba Gonzalez
Educational Technologist
The Nightingale-Bamford School, New York City, NY

Christine Zaremba Gonzalez is an Educational Technologist at an independent K-12 school on the Upper East Side of Manhattan. She teaches technology and design thinking to first and second grade and coaches the middle school *FIRST*® LEGO® League team. She also plans, designs and delivers technologybased professional development to faculty and staff, manages the school LMS, and supports technology use in all divisions along with the school integrators. Previously, she founded the LEGO® robotics program at St. Edmund School where she coached FLL and *FIRST*® Tech Challenge for seven years. In her spare time, Christine loves to build LEGO modular buildings, dreams of building a dedicated room for LEGO storage and display, and tries to make at least three new recipes a week.



Jason Zobl-Tar
Reading Recovery Teacher & Reading Specialist
Birmingham Public Schools, Bloomfield Hills, MI

Jason is a Reading Specialist and Reading Recovery instructor in a suburban Detroit elementary school. He has made use of LEGO® Education StoryStarter sets during summer writing camps to introduce students to the writing process, as well as motivate reluctant writers. In addition to literacy, he has brought *FIRST*® LEGO® League and *FIRST*® LEGO® League Jr. to his school, starting teams for grades 1-5.



Eduardo Zurita
Instructional Technology Facilitator
Los Angeles Unified School District-Instructional Technology Initiative (ITI), Los Angeles, CA

Eduardo Zurita helps to lead the district's 21st century instructional practices through implementation of the International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE) standards and the Leading with Instruction approach. Eduardo currently serves as an Instructional Technology Facilitator that supports teachers to improve their teaching practices by utilizing the LEGO Education hands-on curriculum to drive students' innovation and creative thinking. As an ISTE Certified Educator, Common Sense Education Ambassador and Google Certified Trainer, Eduardo provides professional development, support, and training to teachers, administrators, paraprofessionals, and other educational staff both in the schools that he serves and throughout the district. He is also a speaker and has presented at several conferences including ISTE 2018 and the Leading Edge EdTech Summit 2019 in partnership with LEGO® Education. Eduardo holds an M.A. in Education from UCLA and has 17 years of classroom teaching experience. He and his wife have two children and reside in Pasadena, CA.