BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT

SUSQUENITA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL WELCOMES YOU!





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MISS Perkins



MS. WHITTAKER



Mrs. GIBney

During the presentation, click on the animal friends to come back to this screen.

Mrs. Kerstetter

My name is Donna Kerstetter. I am married and live in Halifax with my husband, Jeff. We have 2 grown children, two grandsons and one granddaughter.

I grew up in Philadelphia and earned a BS in Education with a minor in exceptionalities from Slippery Rock University in 1986. I have been teaching at Susquenita Elementary School since 1993. I taught first and second grade before becoming the Title I math teacher in 2003. In 2011 I was given the opportunity to become the Intervention Coordinator.

In 2012, I completed the Masters in Education program through Cabrini College and earned my Administrative Certificate.

I have a true passion for teaching and love to work with young learners. Through the Multi-Tiered System of Support, I have the ability to work with families to find ways to assist struggling learners. Only when all of the pieces to the puzzle have been uncovered are we able to put the whole picture together.



I love traveling and have been to Europe on five occasions. My husband and I have two trips planned for 2022. Some of my favorite places are: Jungfrau, Switzerland; Maastricht, Netherlands; and Regensburg, Germany.

MISS Hawkins

My name is Miss Hawkins. This is my twenty-ninth year teaching at Susquenita. This year I am thrilled to be teaching the Title I Math students in First thru Fourth grades.

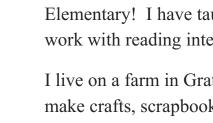
I completed my undergraduate work at the University of Pittsburgh and furthered my education by earning my Master's Degree in Education.







MISS Perkins



It is so good to have you back this school year! This is my 22nd year at Susquenita Elementary! I have taught both first and second grade here within the district and now work with reading interventions here at the school.

I live on a farm in Gratz that has been in my family for three generations. I love to read, make crafts, scrapbook, cook and watch movies. I also enjoy music and can play the piano.

I graduated from Upper Dauphin School District and received my bachelor of education degree from Lebanon Valley College. I have my masters degree from Penn State Harrisburg in Curriculum and Instruction. I also have my reading specialist certificate.





MS. WHITTAKER

Hello, Susquenita families! I have been with the district since 2012 teaching 2nd grade. This school year I have made a change to work with our Kindergarten classrooms to support them in reading and math.

Since graduating from Susquenita, I attended Millersville University to earn my teaching degree and certification. It's comforting to be back at my alma mater as a staff member, and making connections within the community. I then worked through a Master's program at Wilkes University to gain knowledge in teaching young children how to read; it is very fulfilling for me to watch students grow, especially in their reading. I'm currently attending Messiah University to work towards a Master's degree in school counseling.

In my free time, I enjoy connecting with nature, hiking, exercise, spending time at the beach, Philadelphia sports teams, gardening, and kayaking.





Mrs. GIBney



Welcome! I live in Duncannon with my husband Rick, twin boys Drew and Derek, daughter Shea, cat Stormy and dog Maverick. I have been teaching here since 2000.

Although my husband was born and raised here, I grew up in Ohio- go Buckeyes! I graduated with my B.S. in Elementary Education from Miami University located in Oxford, OH. I received my Master's Degree from Penn State Harrisburg in Curriculum and Instruction and went on to become a certified Reading Specialist. I have completed my Principal's Certification through Cabrini College and I received my National Board Certification as well.

When I am not at school I can be found with my kids or traveling. We love to visit the beach!



I STITL

Reading

In our classroom we will strive to:

- increase growth in student achievement
- build strong phonemic awareness
- create a strong knowledge of phonics
- increase reading fluency
- build stronger vocabulary
- improve comprehension strategies
- use technology to promote learning

Classroom Program

95% Group- 95% group is a reading program for all grade levels. The program allows for small groups of children to focus on specific skills and practice them in isolation and context. The children work through interventions for phonemic awareness, phonics, and syllables based on their need.

Fundations- Fundations is a phonemic, phonics, and letter knowledge program that will be used in Kindergarten and First grade. This program supports the materials and lessons the children are using within the regular classroom, but in a smaller group setting.

TITLE I Math

Title I Math students are taught the same math curriculum as their grade level peers. Students are given additional time and practice to master the skills taught to them in class. Students need to practice their addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division facts nightly. It is essential for students to be fluent with their facts.

THANKS FOR VISITING!

Questions?

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