

# Eastside Welcomes New Staff and Faculty!

## **Sarah Blake - -Spanish**

¡Hola! My name is Sarah Blake and I am excited to be teaching Spanish at Eastside this year. I am originally from Kentucky and moved to Greenville to attend Furman for undergraduate and graduate school. This will be my sixth year teaching with Greenville County and I am looking forward to the year ahead!



## **Stephanie Calloway – Administration**

I am excited to be an Eastside Eagle! This year will be my 20th in education. I was a science teacher for 9 years before going into administration. When not at school I spend time with my husband, often visit our daughter at College of Charleston, and play with our dogs and chickens.



## **Heather Felise – Science**

I have a Ph.D. in microbiology from the University of Washington, 20 years research experience, and over six years experience teaching courses covering a range of topics from biology, chemistry, microbiology, genetics, immunology, and pathogenesis to a diversity of students. Although my current teaching experience is predominantly in higher education, I am excited to have the unique opportunity to teach high school students through the Greenville County Schools GATE program and to share with them my enthusiasm for the sciences. I believe teaching at any level requires the ability to engage students, facilitate a student-centered learning environment and to create opportunities for students to apply their knowledge beyond the classroom. I am looking forward to the upcoming year and excited to be a part of Eastside High School!



## **Stacy Galli – Mathematics**

I was born in Greenville, SC and graduated from Eastside High School. I received my Bachelors of Science Degree in Accounting from Clemson University. I worked in the accounting field for four years before deciding to change careers and become a teacher. I was a substitute teacher for three years before enrolling in the Masters of Arts in Teaching (MAT) program through Clemson University at the University Center of Greenville. I completed my practicum and student teaching at Bryson Middle School and graduated with my Masters of Arts in Teaching degree and initial certification in Middle Level Mathematics. I began my teaching career at Lakeview Middle School and taught there for six and a half years. I recently completed my Education Specialist degree in Administration and Supervision at Clemson University and I am currently working on my PhD in Educational Leadership at Clemson University. I am married and gained two great children through the marriage to my husband, Nick. Austin is 23 years old and is a registered nurse for the cardiology department at Mission Hospital in Asheville, NC. Owen is 19 years old and graduated from Woodmont High School in June 2016. We currently live in Simpsonville and I enjoy traveling and vacationing with my husband during our spare time. I am a dedicated Clemson fan and attend all home football games to cheer on my Tigers. I also enjoy roller skating, snow skiing, water skiing, and playing softball. I am excited to be returning to my alma mater to continue my teaching career. Lets Go Eagles!!!



## **Jessica Gardner - Counseling**

My name is Jessica Gardner, and I am one of six School Counselors now at Eastside. I'm originally from New Jersey, and I just moved down to South Carolina this summer. I earned both my Bachelor's Degree in Psychology and my Master's in Counseling in Educational Settings from Rowan University. I enjoy crafting and spending time with my dog Piper & my family. I'm a huge Pittsburgh Steelers fan and love watching games every week during the season and heading to Pittsburgh once a year. I'm extremely excited to be part of the Eastside team, and looking forward to a successful school year!



## **Jamie Hackney – Band Director**

I was born and raised in South Boston, VA. I received my Bachelor's degree in instrumental music education from Radford University and began my teaching career in my hometown. After 5 years in Virginia I pursued my Master's degree at the University of Tennessee. I taught 3 years in and around Knoxville, TN. After having our 1st child, we decided to relocate to Arkansas to be near family. I taught 5 years in Roland, OK before accepting the position here with Eastside H.S. My primary instrument is percussion, however you will often find me playing trombone or

trumpet. Outside of school I enjoy spending time outdoors, playing Pokemon Go, and spending time with my beautiful family; my wife Tracie and our two kids August and Naomi.



### **Matthew Haley – Physical Education**

I am originally from Fair Play, SC and now reside in Mauldin. I am entering my 13th year of teaching and 17th year of coaching football. I graduated from Southern Wesleyan University in 2004 with a B.S in Physical Education and completed my Master's program in 2009 in Educational Leadership from Jones International University.

### **Lorrie Harris – In School Suspension**

My family and I moved here from Lexington, Va 3 years ago when my husband took the Defensive Coordinators job with the NGU Football team.

I have previous experience with the Department of Juvenile Justice in Virginia, I served as a Counselor for students at The Rivermont Alternative School in Lexington, Va, and I worked one on one with At-Risk Students Athletes in a NCAA Division I Program. Before moving to South Carolina, I was a Child Protective Services Worker with the State of Virginia. I have two children ages 23 and 16.

I am so excited to be a part of the team here at Eastside!

### **Claire Horn – English**

I am excited to teach English and Yearbook as an Eastside Eagle! I was born and raised in Louisville, Kentucky, (GO CARDS!) and have attended college at North Greenville University, where I graduated with an honors degree in Secondary English Education, and University of South Carolina, where I am pursuing my Masters in Education. Prior to teaching at Eastside, I worked at Newberry High School. My husband Curtis and I were married August 8, 2015, and have a chocolate goldendoodle named Moose!



### **Sharon Jacobs – Special Education**

My name is Sharon Jacobs. I am originally from Pittsburgh, but have lived here in Greenville for 26 years. This is my 15th year teaching special education in Greenville County. I love the challenges and responsibilities that come with

teaching, and I enjoy collaborating with other adults to create successful educational experiences for students. I am passionate about empowering our next generation and THRILLED to experience high school life as an “Eastside Eagle”!



### **Jade Lawing – Science**

My name is Jade Lawing, and this is my first official year teaching science. I grew up in Spartanburg, and I went to Boiling Springs High School. After high school, I attended USC Upstate. I graduated from USC Upstate in December 2016 with a Bachelor of Science in Education (focusing in chemistry). After graduation I started a long-term subbing position in Spartanburg District One. I also did my student teaching in Spartanburg District One at Chapman High School where I taught three CP Chemistry classes. I will be teaching Chemistry and Earth Science for the 2017-2018 school year here at Eastside. I am so excited to start teaching at Eastside! I have already fallen in love with the school and I am very excited to start meeting and teaching the students here.



### **Chloe Longwell**

I am originally from Atlanta, Georgia. I graduated from Kennesaw State University with a degree in Communication and concentration in Organizational Communication. I continued my graduate education at Fort Hays State University. I received a master's degree in Social Network Management, and I am in the process of completing my MBA in Marketing.



### **Wendy Riddle – Front Office Clerk**

I have been with the district for 5 years as an attendance clerk at BRHS. I have a 20 year old daughter, Samantha, graduated from Eastside. My son David is currently an 11th grader here. I have been married to my Husband, David (family name), for 23 years. He is a manager with Publix. We have lived in SC for 12 years and are from Florida.



## **Ricky Robbins – Business**

My name is Ricky Robbins, and I am one of the new CTE teachers this year.

I am beginning my seventh official year teaching, but only my fourth in Greenville County. I moved to Greenville from Colorado in 2014, and I spent the last three years at Mauldin High School Teaching Math and Business, and coaching Wrestling. I also met my newlywed wife at Mauldin, we were married in May! We live in Simpsonville and have two dogs, Ruby and Tater! I am excited to be at Eastside this year! Go Eagles



## **Brian Smith – Mathematics**

1991 graduate of Clemson University - BA in Secondary Education - Mathematics

2006 graduate of Walden University - MS in Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment

Wife - April

Children - Brianne, Britney, Bret

Grandson - Riggins

Dogs - Charlie, River



## **Colby Tharpe - Mathematics**

My name is Colby Tharpe. I was born and raised in Greenwood, SC where I graduated from Greenwood High School in 2010. From there, I went on to Wofford College and graduated in 2014 with my Bachelor of Science in Mathematics. I began teaching at Laurens District High School immediately after, where I have taught Algebra 1, Geometry, Algebra 2, and Pre-Calculus. I married my high school sweetheart Alex in 2015. We moved to Simpsonville, where we reside now, and are excitedly expecting a bouncing baby boy in October 2017. I am beginning my first year of teaching here at Eastside with much enthusiasm and readiness to help my students succeed.



## **Veronica Torres - Spanish**

I am a native Spanish speaker born in Colombia and raised there and in Australia. Teaching is a passion of mine and has been one for over 17 years. I also love cycling which is one big reason we decided to move to Greenville, and we love the city! I look forward to having a great time learning from everyone and teaching students a wonderful language and culture.



Photo courtesy: George P. Potts