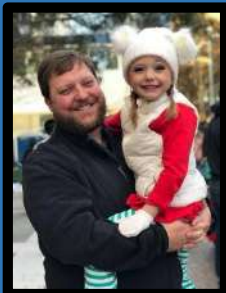


# Meet the newest Wildcats!

## Mr. Phil Price Assistant Principal



Hello Wildcats! I am joining the Crestdale family after serving as an Assistant Principal at East Mecklenburg High School since 2015. I am from the Matthews area and have been involved in education since 2005. I graduated from Appalachian State in 2005 where I received a degree in History, Secondary Education.

After spending 8 years as a high school social studies teacher, I graduated from Gardner-Webb with a Masters in Executive Leadership and began my administrative career at Porter Ridge High School in neighboring Union County. I currently lives in Waxhaw with my wife and daughter and I enjoy mountain biking, fly fishing, and spending time with my family.

## Mrs. Caitlyn Woodie 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Counselor

Hey y'all! I'm Kaitlyn Woodie, coming to Crestdale from a middle school in Asheville. I got my bachelors in Psychology from Appalachian and my Masters in School Counseling from Lenoir Rhyne. This is my 5th year as a school counselor and I have experience in elementary, middle and high school. Middle school is my favorite for many reasons, so I am so looking forward to meeting our kids! I am solution focused when working with students and in my personal life, which is why one of my favorite quotes is "Every problem has in it the seeds of its own solution. If you don't have any problems, you don't get any seeds." - Norman Vincent Peale. Can't wait to meet and get started working with each one of you!



## Mr. Cameron Wilmer Exceptional Children Teacher



Hello Crestdale, my name is Cameron Wilmer, and I was born and raised in Charlottesville, Virginia. I went Longwood University, where I earned my bachelors and masters degrees in education, specializing in Special Education. In June, I moved to Charlotte, and I recently got engaged to my beautiful fiancé, Shelby.

When I'm not at work, I enjoy going to the movies, meeting up with friends, binge watching The Office for the 500th time, and going on walks with my dog, Lucy. I am really looking forward to being a part of the Crestdale family!

## Ms. Renelle Brooks-Payne English as Second Language Teacher

Hello! My name is Renelle Brooks-Payne. I attended Lincoln University in Pennsylvania where I received a Bachelor's degree in Education. A few years later, I attained a Master's in School Administration from Mercy College in my hometown of New York. I have worked as a classroom teacher in multiple grade levels including



elementary and high school for 14 years, and have been an ESL teacher in CMS for the past 7 years. I am a firm believer in the quote that "A good education is a foundation for a better future." I work to encourage my students with this knowledge, and to help increase their college and career readiness. I am excited to be a Wildcat, and to work with our students, parents, and staff as we all add layers to help build that strong foundation.

## Ms. Patrice Frilot Academic Facilitator



Hello, my name is Patrice Frilot and I am an Academic Facilitator here at Crestdale Middle. My focus is to support all teachers, especially ELA teachers, to teach and deliver the ELA content to their best ability. In addition to being an educator, I am also a mom of 3. I am so excited to welcome everyone back to school even though the start of school looks a little different this year! Speaking of school, I graduated from UNCC with a BA in English and then a Master of Arts in Teaching. Teaching has always been a part of who I am but becoming an educator is a second career for me. Prior to becoming a teacher, I spent about 10 years working in the field of Insurance followed by several years as an Office Manager and Event Coordinator for a small business in uptown Charlotte. After completing college I entered into the Education field as a 7th grade ELA teacher at Piedmont Middle school. After several years of teaching in the classroom, I decided to seek a leadership role that would allow me to expand my student impact which led me to becoming an Academic Facilitator. I am extremely passionate about the impact that student relationships have on student performance. I also believe wholeheartedly that our goal as educators are to be leaders, not just for students, but also for the school, and the community that supports the school.

# Meet the newest Wildcats!

## **Ms. Kayla Soukup** **7<sup>th</sup> Grade Math/Science**

Hello, I am Kayla Soukup. I graduated from Mississippi State University with a degree in elementary education in 2015. I have been teaching middle school Science for the past 5 years. I have also taught middle school mathematics and high school yearbook. One quote I love is by Albert Einstein, "It is the supreme art of the teacher to awaken joy in creative expression and knowledge." The past two years, I worked in a small school where I did not have a subject-specific grade level team, so I am extremely excited to begin working closely with a team of educators again.



## **Ms. Kcejohona Jacobs** **7<sup>th</sup> Grade Science**



Hello all, my name is Kcejohona Jacobs and I am a graduate of Johnson C. Smith University with a Bachelor of Science. I enjoy donating and giving back to my community in my spare time. This will be my first year as a teacher and I look forward to getting to know students as well

as parents which I consider a very important aspect. My goal is to become the best teacher that I can be and also gain the trust in my students as well as parents. As we all know education is very important and I will do my part in providing my knowledge and skills to teach each and every one of my students even through this current pandemic.

## **Mr. Jonathan Hayes** **7<sup>th</sup> Grade ELA/SS**

Hi, my name is Jonathan Hayes. I am coming to Crestdale as a veteran teacher of 8 years. I spent my years teaching at Northeast MS and Southwest MS her in Charlotte. I graduated from UNCC with a bachelors in History and a Graduate Certificate in Teaching. I try to approach teaching with the philosophy that all students can learn — you just have to meet them where they are. I think I'm most excited about this coming year for the reason that I will be working in the same building as my wife, Caitlyn Hayes, 8th grade ELA.



## **Ms. Ruth Bowden** **6<sup>th</sup> Grade ELA**



Hi! I was born in South Africa but have lived on 3 continents-two of them twice! My two amazing teenagers and I have been in NC now long enough to call it home. I taught overseas for many years before returning to the USA and have been teaching again

for 2-3 years in Elementary. I am thrilled to be moving into middle school grades for the upcoming year. I have a Bachelor's degree in psychology, a Master of Science degree in Exercise Science & Physiology, and a Master of Arts degree in K-6 Education. I have a passion for lifelong learning ( & ELA) and hope to pass this on to my students each year. I am excited about what this upcoming year will bring. I feel it is an opportunity to grow and develop skills we perhaps never considered before; from communication with our new students/families to content delivery, to our collaboration efforts with one another. We know challenges equal opportunities and WOW... They are plentiful now! Looking so forward to learning with, and from, you all as we navigate the 2020-2021 school year!

"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world." -Nelson Mandel

## **Ms. Taylor Adams** **8<sup>th</sup> grade ELA**

Hi Crestdale! My name is Taylor Adams and couldn't be more thrilled to be a Wildcat! I was born and raised in Kentucky, and attended the University of Kentucky to earn my Bachelor of Arts in Middle School Education, in both language



arts and math. I've been teaching 8th grade language arts for the past two years in Lexington, Kentucky since graduating, but moved to Charlotte this summer to be close to some family that just moved to the area. Whenever we return to school, you'll see my favorite quote in my classroom, "I am

somebody. I was somebody when I came. I'll be a better somebody when I leave." - Rita Pierson. I'm most excited to get to know my 20-21 students and watch them grow throughout the year, and I absolutely can't wait for the new school year to start! Go Cats!