MANITOU SPRINGS SCHOOL DISTRICT 14

GO MUSTANGS!

MANITOU SPRINGS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL • UTE PASS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL • MANITOU SPRINGS MIDDLE SCHOOL • MANITOU SPRINGS HIGH SCHOOL

Meet our new Middle School staff members!

Brice Smith, 8th Grade Science Teacher

Brice is very excited to join Manitou Springs Middle School as the 8th Grade Science Teacher. He's spent the last four years teaching 8th Grade Science in Craig, Colorado. Brice grew up in Charlottesville, Virginia, and got his undergraduate degree in psychology and environmental policy from The College of William and Mary and his master's in education from Virginia Tech. When not teaching in the classroom, Brice finds himself in other teaching roles including a snowboarding instructor, and leading outdoor education and service learning trips with high school students through the Student Conservation Association. When not in the classroom, he likes to spend his time fishing, hiking, camping, backpacking or snowboarding. Brice loves teaching, sharing knowledge and new experiences and looks forward to all of the opportunities that Manitou has to offer.

Melanie Gordon, Gifted & Talented Coordinator

Melanie will be serving as the MSMS Gifted & Talented coordinator. She's taught 6th through12th grade science, health and physical education for the past several years in both International Baccalaureate and Expeditionary Learning curricular settings. Along with secondary education, she also has a degree in health and exercise science. Being a Colorado native, she is very passionate about leading a healthy lifestyle, both inside and out. Coaching is another passion. She has experience coaching youth through high school soccer and volleyball, and is excited to be coaching the girls "A" volleyball team. In her spare time, she loves playing outside, traveling, spending time with family, practicing yoga, dancing and volunteering as an EMT at Stratmoor Hills Fire Department. Melanie is extremely excited to be joining the Manitou family, Go Mustangs!

Noa Fodrie, Art Teacher

Noa is excited to begin her career at MSMS! She studied at Colorado College before completing her bachelor's in art education at the University of Memphis. Her time spent in Manitou and Colorado Springs made the decision to move back an easy one. She's excited to help students discover their own creative vision through painting, drawing, ceramics, sculpture, fiber arts and digital arts.

Hana Vermillion, Para Professional

Hana is a Colorado native and graduate of Manitou Springs High School. She loves working with kids and is excited to be a part of the Manitou Springs family again. In her free time, Hana enjoys painting and hiking with her dogs.

Megan Lamoreaux, Para Professional

Megan is excited to be starting her first year at MSMS. She's lived in Colorado for two years, but is originally from Los Angeles. She's also lived in the pacific northwest, first to attend Humboldt State University and then in Portland. In her spare time, Megan loves painting, drawing, cooking and hanging out with her dog, Blitz.

Jennifer Weimer, 8th Grade English Teacher

Jennifer is thrilled to be starting her fifth year at Manitou Springs Middle School, and she is so excited to be moving into the 8th grade Language Arts position. Previously Jennifer was the Gifted & Talented coordinator and she is so excited for her new role.

Shaunda McQueeney, Math Teacher

Shaunda is returning to her math teaching position at MSMS after a two-year hiatus. She hails from a century farm in the great state of Iowa. She holds a bachelor's in agronomy from Iowa State University and a master's in curriculum and instruction from UCCS. She and her husband, Jack, have four children who are all proud Manitou Springs graduates.

Mallory Susen, Media Tech

Mallory just moved from Texas to Colorado in January, is newly married, and has two dogs that take up all of her spare time. She is excited to be a part of the Manitou Mustang family and to be surrounded with such beauty every day!

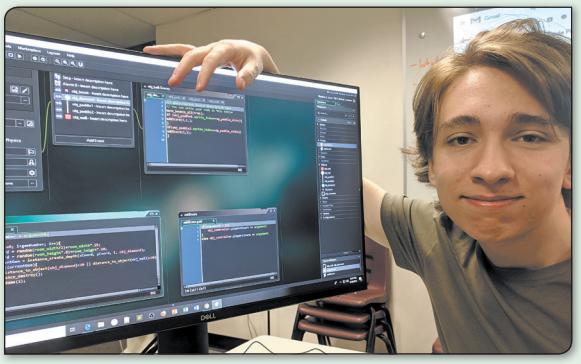
Career and College Readiness Corner

In the spring of 2019, Manitou Springs High School expanded its Computer Science Pathway by adding classes. The pathway is now an approved Career and Technical Education (CTE) pathway and students participated in Advanced Placement (AP) testing for the first time.

In the spring AP testing session, 100 percent of the Computer Science Principles students scored a 3 or higher, which allows them to earn college credit.

"AP CSP was a great way to improve my programming skills. I learned how to create and utilize functions within my program and refined my previous knowledge of loops and iterations. This class was great because it taught me all the skills necessary for Computer Science I, which I am currently taking at a local community college. This class put me ahead of the game and provided a great foundation for computer science." — *Orion L., senior*

"Selection, sequence, iteration: all things I learned in this class that I personally apply every time I code something. I will be several steps ahead in college just from having fun in class." — *Lukas J., junior*



"In addition to free college credit, this class gave me plenty of experience in computer science, which is a very high-demand field. It also taught me that I can create the media I love with my own two hands." — *Luke L., senior*

"I not only learned how to program, I learned how to work under time limits, which will be beneficial for the working world." — *Liam D., senior*

Important dates

Sept. 10: MSES Open House, 5-7:30 p.m.
Sept. 13: HOMECOMING!

Please note MSSD14 will have its annual Homecoming Bonfire on Sept. 10. Manitou Springs Fire Department will be supervising the event. The supervised bonfire will begin around 8 p.m. and end around 9 p.m.

HOMECOMING IS FRIDAY, SEPT. 13!