

ADMINISTRATION

Janet Begin, Executive Director

Janet joined HVM as Executive Director in May 2007. Janet has a B.S. in Computer Science from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, an M.S. in Computer Engineering from Boston University and a M.Ed. in Elementary Education from Lesley University with certification in Massachusetts as an elementary and middle school math teacher. She spent the first ten years of her career as a software engineer and team leader in industry before entering the field of education. After a few years in the classroom, Janet envisioned a new school and made it a reality with the opening of Hill View Montessori Charter Public School in 2004. Motivated by her vision for schools, Janet enrolled in the Leadership Licensure Program where she completed coursework towards a Masters degree in Organizational Management and received certification as a Principal in 2007. Janet is passionate about nurturing a strong school culture and the high expectations necessary to create an environment where students, as well as teachers, are engaged in meaningful and continuous learning.

Kate Coltin, Educational Program Director

Kate joined the HVM staff in 2007. She holds a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of New Hampshire in Communication Disorders as well as Family Studies with concentration in Early Childhood Education. She completed her M.Ed. through Endicott College with a concentration in Curriculum and Instruction and holds K-8 teacher certification in the state of New Hampshire as well as Highly Qualified teaching status. Kate completed her Certificate of Advanced Graduate Studies in Educational Leadership in May of 2008. She is also Montessori trained (ages 3-12) and is a teacher trainer for Seacoast Montessori Center in Greenland, NH. Kate is committed to assisting teachers in educating children by incorporating current best practices within Montessori's philosophy. Kate believes that all children have the potential to learn and will help HVM foster life-long learners

Jonnie Lyn Evans, Data and Development Director

Jonnie Lyn joined Hill View Montessori Charter Public School in January 2007. She has a research and analysis background that began in the for-profit sector where she worked as an analyst in the consumer information industry. She has also worked as a project manager/consultant in the areas of new business, strategic planning, and competitive analysis. Following her corporate sector experiences, she left the for-profit world to co-found the first Montessori charter public school in Massachusetts which her three children attended through eighth grade.

For the last ten years she has worked with traditional and charter schools in the areas of strategic planning, school accountability, student assessment, governance, development, grant writing, project management and dissemination of best practices. Jonnie Lyn has taught in elementary classrooms and served as a charter school trustee. She received her undergraduate management degree from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst and her Masters in Business Administration from Northeastern University.

Andrea Kwiatkowski, Personnel and Operations Director

Prior to coming to HVM in May 2008, Andrea spent 20 years in mental-health and non-profit management. She currently oversees facilities, administrative functions, school lunch program and CORI/ authorization of parent/family volunteers. Andrea served on the HVM Board of Trustees and its subcommittees for a combination of two years when HVM first opened. She has a Bachelors degree in psych/early childhood education from SUNY Potsdam; Masters in Counseling Psych from Northeastern.

LEAD TEACHERS

Kindergarten

Susan MacLeod

Susan holds a B.A. in Psychology and 3-6 Montessori Certification. She was instrumental in founding a Montessori school in Ipswich which has now grown into two schools. She has served on several committees supporting the operation and growth OF schools.

Louisette Morin

Louisette holds a Bachelor of Science in Psychology from Endicott College, and a 3-6 AMS Primary Certification from the Northeast Montessori Institute. Louisette also holds a Master in Education from Cambridge College.

Lower Elementary

Kathryn DeMarco, Co-teacher with Rebekah Thiefels

Kathryn holds a Bachelors degree in Philosophy and a minor in Education from Stonehill College in Easton MA. She also holds a K-2 MA state license and she recently completed her Lower Elementary Montessori training at Seacoast Center in New Hampshire.

Christi-Ann George

Christi-Ann holds a Bachelor of Business Administration degree from CUNY Baruch College in New York, NY. Christi-Ann received AMS Montessori training at the Lower Elementary level at CMTE, Center for Montessori Teacher Education, in Lexington, MA.

Kathryn Lanzillo

Kathryn has her Bachelor degree from Northeastern University with a MA elementary teaching license. She completed her Lower Elementary Montessori training at Seacoast Center in New Hampshire and is working on completing her Master of Education in Montessori and Reading Recovery at Lesley University.

Amanda Smart, Co-teacher with Laura Tilley

Amanda received AMS Montessori training at the Lower Elementary level at Seacoast Montessori Center in Greenland, NH. She holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Early Childhood Education from Salem State College and a K-2 MA state license.

Rebekah Thiefels, Co-teacher with Kathryn DeMarco

Rebekah received her Bachelor of Art in Elementary Education from Saint Mary's College in Notre Dame, Indiana and her Montessori certification from CMTE in New York. She previously taught for three years at Go Like the Wind Montessori School in Ann Arbor Michigan as a lower elementary teacher.

Laura Tilley, Co-teacher with Amanda Smart

Laura holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Elementary Education and Special Education from Keene State College and a Masters degree in Literacy Studies from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. She is certified in education in NY, NH, VT and MA. Recently, Laura completed her Lower Elementary Montessori Certification at the Seacoast Center in Greenland, NH.

Upper Elementary

Kristen Espie Bilodeau

Kristen has spent the last two years as a lead teacher in a 5th/6th multi-age classroom. She holds a Masters degree in Education from Lesley University as well as a BA from Assumption College in Worcester, MA. Kristen is Massachusetts certified for grades 1-6.

Stacey DeSimone

Stacey holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Political Science and minor in Elementary Education at the University of New Hampshire. She received her Masters degree in Elementary Education from Salem State with a MA Elementary teaching license in May of 2008. Last summer, Stacey took a portion of the 9-12 Montessori teacher training at Seacoast Center in New Hampshire. This summer she attended workshops in reading and writing.

Lea Lewkowski

Lea is excited to be starting her second year at Hill View. Prior to that, she taught 4th grade in Lawrence for 5 years, specializing in the Science and Social Studies curriculum in an inclusion classroom. Lea holds a Masters of Education degree from Lesley University with a MA elementary teaching license as well as also holds several undergraduate degrees in fields other than education. This summer, Lea attended Seacoast Montessori for upper elementary math and geometry training.

Patty Shingai

Patty holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in English with minors in Elementary Education and Philosophy from Sophia University, Tokyo, Japan. She holds a MA elementary teaching license and AMI Primary Certification from Washington Montessori Institute. She has more than 20 years teaching experience both in international and U.S. schools, private and public. Before joining HVM in January 2008, Patty most recently taught grades K, 3, and 4 in public schools in Mililani, Hawaii.

Middle School

Alison Lavoie, Language Arts and Humanities

Ali holds a B.A. in Government and Legal Studies from Bowdoin College. She received her MEd with a focus in Teacher Leadership from UNH. Prior to joining HVM, Ali taught for three years in an upper elementary classroom at River Valley Charter School in Newburyport, and middle school reading and writing for two years at Epiphany School in Dorchester, MA.

Andy Willemssen, Coordinator and Mathematics

Andy holds a Bachelors degree in English from Princeton University and a Masters in Education from Lesley University. He is certified by the American Montessori Society and works as a Montessori teacher trainer at the Seacoast Center for Education. Andy holds a professional teaching license in Massachusetts and is currently working towards a Masters degree in organizational management. He has taught at the Upper Elementary level at River Valley Charter School for the past seven years.

Jennifer Lally, Science and Special Education

Jennifer received her Master in Education from Cambridge College and a BS in Psychology from the University of Massachusetts. Jennifer has been teaching for ten years. She began her teaching career in Haverhill at Silver Hill Elementary School and then she helped begin the integrated middle school program at Nettle Middle School in Haverhill. For the past five years, Jen worked at Newburyport's public Montessori charter school, River Valley Charter School, as a learning disability specialist as well as an ELL instructor.

Margaret Cottrell, Spanish

See bio under Learning Differences

CLASSROOM ASSISTANTS

Nicole Andrews, assisting Louissette Morin in Kindergarten

Nicole has an OCCS certification from Northern Essex Community College as well as Assistant Certification I & II from the Northeast Montessori Institute.

Alison Bomba, assisting Kathryn Lanzillo in Lower Elementary

Alison holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in History with a minor in English from Manhattan College in Riverdale, NY. Prior to joining Hill View, she served in the AmeriCorps program, City Year Boston, where she worked as a teacher's assistant at the William Monroe Trotter Elementary School in Roxbury, MA. While there, she collaborated with seven other Corps members to run an afterschool program for students from grades 1 – 5 that emphasized social justice issues and community service.

Amy Broadhead, assisting Patty Shingai in Upper Elementary

Amy holds a B.S. in Physical Education from SUNY Brockport and a B.S. in Criminal Justice from the Rochester Institute of Technology. Amy has worked in special education in both MN and NH. Currently, Amy is pursuing her MA teaching license in both elementary education and physical education.

Cheryl Brown, assisting Lea Lewkowski in Upper Elementary

Prior to coming to HVM, Cheryl was a special education assistant and a preschool teacher, and is OCCS certified in MA. She holds a BS in Industrial Psychology from Suffolk University and has participated in numerous educational workshops.

Becky Driscoll, assisting Stacey DeSimone in Upper Elementary

Becky holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Sports, Fitness & Leisure from Salem State College in Salem, MA. While working at HVM, Becky will continue her work for the City of Haverhill as a coach, swim instructor, and lifeguard.

Kendra DeVivo, assisting Christi-Ann George in Lower Elementary

Kendra received her BA in communications from the University of New Hampshire. She also minored in Business Administration. She went on to get her Masters in Elementary Education grade 1-6 from Lesley University.

Charlene Levesque, assisting Susan MacLeod in Kindergarten.

Charlene holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Elementary Ed and Special Ed from Rivier College in NH. She also has a license in MA and Maine where she taught for several years. She recently obtained a license for assistant in Child Care from MA.

Cathy McNally assisting Kristen Bilodeau in Upper Elementary.

Cathy has worked in Montessori education for more than 10 years, in Virginia, Wisconsin and Massachusetts, at both AMI and AMS schools. She is also the mother of two Montessori educated children. She holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree in English Literature, is EEC certified by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and has Early Childhood Certification, Level 7, from the State of Wisconsin.

LEARNING DIFFERENCES

Meredith Roy Butterworth, Learning Differences Teacher

Meredith received her M.Ed. in moderate special needs from Lesley University. She earned her undergraduate degree from Westfield State College in Westfield, MA. Meredith holds Massachusetts teachers certifications in both Special Education and Regular Education. She completed her B.C.B.A. program at the University of

Massachusetts and is eligible to sit for the exam. She is trained in Orton-Gillingham, and is familiar with the Wilson Reading Program. She has also worked for Lesley University's Learning Lab as a tutor.

Jennifer Coffen, Learning Differences Teacher

Jennifer holds a Bachelors Degree in Psychology from Westfield State College. She has received her Massachusetts teaching license and will finish with a Masters Degree in Special Education from Salem State College this year. Jennifer is trained in the Wilson Reading Program, teaching and differentiating learning for ELL students, and has attended numerous workshops and classes for teaching mathematics to students with learning differences.

Sophie Costello, Learning Differences Teacher

This is Sophie's second year at HVM as a learning differences teacher. Sophie holds a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science as well as a Masters degree in Elementary Education from the University of New Hampshire. This year Sophie will be attending Boston University. She holds special education certification in MA and general education certification in NY, MA and NH. Sophie is Orton-Gillingham trained. She was trained at the Carroll School in Lincoln, MA.

Margaret Cottrell, Learning Differences Teacher

This is Margaret's first year at HVM as a learning differences teacher. (She is also teaching Spanish in the Middle School). Margaret holds a Bachelors of Science in Biology and a Masters degree in Special Education from George Mason University in Virginia. She holds special education certification and general science certification in MA, FL and VA. She was a learning differences teacher for middle school in Florida and more recently, taught high school Spanish. Margaret also spent five years working for an agency in relief and development in Central and South America and interned for one year in East Africa developing educational programs.

Leslie Krohto, Speech & Language Pathologist/Therapist

Leslie is a certified Speech & Language Pathologist and she has many years experience working with pre-school and elementary school age children.

Lisa Rauch, Title I Math

Lisa holds a B.S. in Elementary Education from Emporia State University in Emporia, KS, and she has Massachusetts teaching certification for grades 1-6. Prior to coming to HVM, Lisa worked in MA as a classroom tutor, an assistant teacher, and a 5th grade teacher.

Noula Thibault, Title I ELA

Noula is the part-time Title I Reading Teacher for lower elementary. She works with students individually and in small groups to provide reading instruction on short and long term interventions. Noula comes to us with over 14 years teaching experience. She has earned her Massachusetts State Teaching Certification in grades K-6 and holds Master degrees from Lesley University and from Simmons College.

Amy Wallis, Upper Elementary Literacy Specialist

Amy holds a B.A. in French from Middlebury College and elementary certification from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. She has Montessori Training grades 4-6 and is completing an M.A.T. at Gordon College. Having taught in private, public, and Montessori charter schools, Amy is joining the Hill View staff as an Upper Elementary Literacy Specialist.

SPECIALISTS

Laura Green, Music

Laura holds a B.M. in Music Education from UMASS Lowell and continued her education there as a Master's candidate in Vocal Performance. An active performer and teacher, she has held both faculty and assistant conducting positions in the choral area at UMASS Lowell, and currently teaches studio voice lessons at University Music in Lowell. In addition, she has performed with, music directed, and served on the board of directors of the Lowell Opera Company. This will be her third year at Hill View, and she is looking forward to building a challenging and interesting music curriculum for 7th year students and continuing to build the choral program.

Sue Logan, Physical Education and Before School Care Supervisor

Sue holds a B.S. in Elementary Education degree from the University of Arizona and Physical Education Endorsement from Fresno Pacific University. Her background experience consists of working as a Physical Education Assistant for 6 years prior to receiving her teaching degree with 3 years as a Lead Teacher in Arizona. She has also taught in a self-contained classroom for special needs students during her summer months.

Andrea Sluder West, Art

Andrea is skilled in a multitude of artistic media but specializes in watercolors, oil painting and portraiture. She holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Painting and a Bachelor of Arts in Art History from Boston University. She also earned a Master's Degree in Museum Education from The George Washington University and came to Hill View in 2007 from the museum world. Andrea has worked in the education departments of many notable museums including the Boston Museum of Fine Arts, The Smithsonian Institution, and The USS Constitution Museum where she developed a passion for using art projects to teach children about diverse cultures and periods in history.

SUPPORT STAFF

Yazmin Bonilla, Administrative Assistant

Yazmin has worked in the Front Office for four years. Her past experiences have proved to be an asset in making the Front Office and HVM run smoothly and efficiently. She serves as the "right-hand" to many of the administrators who depend on her for her organizational skills and attention to detail.

Marti Crommiller, Administrative Assistant

Marti has extensive experience as a bookkeeper and office manager. She possesses many computer skills and has served in the past as a dedicated office volunteer at HVM.

Beth Jutras, Bookkeeper

Nancy Modlish LICSW, School Counselor

Nancy received her Bachelors degree in Psychology from Tufts University and her Masters degree in Social Work from Boston University. Nancy has worked extensively with children and adolescents and their families in both inpatient and outpatient mental health care facilities.

Albert Sanchez, Jr., Custodian

Albert has worked at HVM for five years and is an invaluable and integral part of our school. His constant vigilance to the day-to-day needs of the staff, students, and building are a large part of making the school a pleasant and welcoming environment.

Sue Scott, Administrative Assistant

Sue holds a B.S. in Math from Tufts University and an M.B.A. from Clark University. Sue has extensive experience working in schools providing both tech support K-12 and administrative support at the elementary school level. HVM is fortunate to be able to leverage Sue's calm demeanor, attention to detail and extensive computer skills.

Shanyn Toulouse, Nurse

Shanyn holds a BS in Nursing and an Associate Degree of Applied Science in Nursing. She has trained children and adults in many aspects of health and safety.