

Paige Williams - Registrar



My name is Paige Williams, I am the new Secretary/Registrar at Bell Elementary, Originally from South Florida, I worked for Miami Dade County Public School for 8 years, beginning as a volunteer, serving as PTA president. Due to more than 18 years of secretary experience, my leadership and organizational skills, I obtained positions as, Administrative Assistant to the Principal, Program Manager and Office Manager.

Now my journey continues at Bell, my hope to bring something new and exciting to Bell Elementary, connect with the staff, parents and students, create a fun and inviting environment where everyone feels welcome. I look forward to meeting all of you, don't be shy, come by and say hi!

Gena Harasimowicz – Safety Net



Hello Bell Families! My name is Gena Harasimowicz ("Mrs. H"). I'm originally from Redmond and spent my own K-12 years learning in LWSD schools. I attended Washington State University and later earned my MA in Education from Grand Canyon University. I was lucky to spend 13 years teaching first grade and kindergarten at Audubon Elementary in Redmond before taking some time off to be at home with our two children. I am married to my high school sweetheart Kevin, and we live here in Kirkland. I'm so happy to be joining your community and look forward to meeting you!

Christine Serica – Music



I am excited to be making music at Bell this year! I grew up in Arlington, WA and went to school at Seattle Pacific University. I've taught music at both the elementary and middle school level and believe every child deserves a quality music education. In my free time I enjoys playing the saxophone with the Shoreline Community Band, reading, and sewing.

Katy Crites -- 3rd Grade



Hello AG Bell Community! My name is Katy Crites and I am so excited to be joining this community as a 3rd grade teacher! This upcoming school year will be my 9th year in education; I spent 6 years teaching 2nd grade in California and spent the last 2 years working at the Experimental Education Unit on the UW campus in a fully inclusive Kindergarten classroom. I grew up just outside of San Jose, CA and just about 2 years ago, moved up to Seattle and am loving everything about Washington! In my spare time, I love to read (especially everything there is to read about Harry Potter!), spend time with my friends, enjoy the sunshine as much as possible, and explore as much of Washington as I can. I can't wait to meet you all and start a new school year off with a bang!

Chris Loux – 4th Grade



I have taught Kindergarteners, 6th graders, pre-kindergarteners, 5th graders, and I am very excited to teach 4th grade at AG Bell Elementary! I am passionate about Project Based Learning and Social Emotional Learning. I recently moved to Seattle from Spokane, Washington with my family. I graduated with a Master's degree in education from EWU, and on my spare time I love to spend time outdoors with my family and meditate.

Melanie Vertrees – ELL



I grew up in Kent, WA and then moved to Eugene, OR to study international business, while competing in track and field at the University of Oregon (go Ducks!). After a short time working in corporate, I knew my calling was to teach. I went back to get my Masters in Education with an ESOL endorsement. This will be my 5th year teaching English language learners and I absolutely love it! I am married to a wonderful husband and we are expecting our first baby this year. In my free time, I enjoy coaching track, spending time with my family and hiking with my dog.

John Marino – Library



I am excited to return to the Lake Washington School District after two years of working in Texas. I look forward to serving as your school librarian doing the things I love: working with students, staff, and families in teaching information and technology skills, advocating for reading, and providing the information every learner needs to succeed. I am also looking forward to exploring makerspace learning, design thinking, digital citizenship, data literacy, and computational thinking. Before becoming a school librarian, I was a

teacher of the Deaf, so let me know if you know American Sign Language. Outside of school, I enjoy reading, biking, and card games. I am happy to become a Bell Bulldog!



Becky Kjolso – Safety Net

Hello! My name is Becky Kjolso (pronounced Kelso). I am so excited to be joining the Safety Net Team at AG Bell for the 2019-2020 school year. This will be my 12th year in the Lake Washington School District. I have taught 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th grade. Having the opportunity to make a positive difference in the lives of students and families has always been my favorite part of Teaching.

I moved to the Kirkland area at age 10 from Southern California and have called Kirkland home ever since. Additionally, I attended Juanita Elementary, where I met my husband Aaron 😊😊.

We have two children, Michael-23 & Mason-17 who also both attended the Lake Washington School District. I graduated from the University of Washington Bothell with my Master's Degree in Education.

In my spare time, I enjoy gardening, painting, listening to music, spending time with family and friends and most of all snuggling my baby Shih Tzu, Winnie. I am a HUGE Seahawks and football fan as well. I am looking forward to getting to know everyone throughout the year and making new memories as a Bell Bulldog!

Icis Tirado – Special Education

Greetings Bell Elementary! My name is **Icis Tirado**, and I am excited to be joining Bell as a special education teacher! I've worked in LWSD since 2005 at the middle and high school level. While most of my teaching career has been at the secondary level, I am excited to work with younger students. I enjoy reading, cooking, learning about different cultures and meeting new people. I am looking forward to meeting you as well and getting to know the students!

John Turnbull – 5th Grade



My name is **John Turnbull** and I am thrilled to be introducing myself to you. Last year I celebrated my seventeenth-year teaching in the district. I have had the pleasure of working the past three years in the Assessment Department as a specialist. Prior to this assignment I specialized in fifth grade at Thoreau Elementary.

After high school I moved to Vancouver, BC where I completed my Bachelor of Arts from Simon Fraser University. I then moved home to Colorado where, after a break, completed my Master of Education from the University of Denver. I moved to Washington state in 2002 and currently live in Edmonds with my wife Anne. In our spare time we enjoy the great outdoors through hiking, camping and skiing.

I have always enjoyed visiting Bell in my role as an Assessment Specialist and working with your wonderful staff. Now, I am very excited to have the opportunity to teach at Bell Elementary and look forward to getting to know the staff and community.

Morgan Stickler – 1st grade

Hello Bell community, my name is Morgan Stickler and I am so excited to be joining your staff for the 2019-2020 school year! I grew up and currently live in northern Colorado, with my wonderful family and friends. I went to college at the University of Northern Colorado and graduated with my B.A. in Early Childhood Special Education in May of 2017. I have been teaching in an inclusive classroom at Lopez Elementary for the past two years, following my student teaching at that same school. Although my heart will always have a place for special education, after working in various special education settings for the past 10 years, I am ready for a new adventure! I am relocating to Kirkland this summer and look forward to meeting you all and spending time with you in the upcoming school year.



Shannon Greer – 4/5 Quest



I am excited to join the Bell community in the 2019-2020 school as a 4/5 Quest teacher. While I currently teach sixth-grade humanities in Bahrain, I formerly taught in Morocco and have eleven combined years in Quest at Alcott and Franklin. My greatest strength is my ability to connect with people. This strength fosters a strong classroom community where students feel safe and excited to learn and grow together. As a result, one of my greatest joys is seeing my students achieve more than they thought possible. Outside school, I enjoy traveling, eating, and playing sports. I look forward to returning to the area, with my husband and two children, and sharing many experiences with my students and the whole Bell community.