Swansfield Summer Newsletter (2nd Edition - July 27, 2020)

**Meet the Swans in the Pond**

Hello Swansfield Community,

We hope you’re finding ways to stay cool this summer. Today we continue introducing you to our staff so you can get to know us better before school begins. We hope you’re enjoying learning more about us!

**Pre-K/Preschool**

**Allie Birmingham, Teacher**

Hi! My name is Allie Birmingham and I am the pre-kindergarten teacher at Swansfield! I am excited to begin my eighth year teaching at Swansfield. In my free time, I enjoy exercising, cooking, and spending time with my friends and family. My favorite thing about teaching at Swansfield is the amazing staff that I get to work with every day! I look forward to seeing you in the fall!

**Nancy Barsoum, Teacher**

Hello! My name is Nancy Barsoum. I am a special education teacher and I will be co-teaching pre-k in the morning and preschool in the afternoon. I am so excited to meet my new students and families!! During my free time I like to read, go to the beach, or hike/walk. My favorite quote is, “The mind is a powerful thing. When you fill it with positive things your life will start to change".

**Doni Rosanova, Paraeducator**

My name is Doni Rosanova and I am a pre-kindergarten paraeducator. This will be my 22nd year as a member of the Swansfield staff. I love music, reading, and playing with my grandchildren. I am looking forward to the new school year.

**Jyothi Kodali, Paraeducator**

My name is Jyothi Kodali and I am a paraeducator in pre-k/preschool. My hobbies are reading books, playing board games and watching movies. My favorite thing about teaching is building relationships with kids and helping them learn and grow.

**Kindergarten**

**Jennifer Nania, Instructional Team Leader**

I am looking forward to returning to Swansfield for the 2020-21 school year as one of five kindergarten teachers! This will be my fifth year teaching at Swansfield Elementary School. My favorite thing about being a teacher is having the opportunity to impact a child’s life. In my spare time I enjoy traveling to Pittsburgh, PA, cheering on the Steelers, running, hiking, and spending time with my friends and family. I can’t wait to start another amazing year in kindergarten that will be filled with fun and many adventures!

**Laura Gordon, Teacher**

Hello Swans! My name is Ms. Gordon and I am a kindergarten teacher at Swansfield Elementary School. I am so excited to be a part of the Swansfield community and the kindergarten team. My favorite thing about being a teacher is having the opportunity to watch a student grow academically throughout the school year, and also seeing my prior students in the halls. In my spare time I enjoy going to the movies, being on the water and spending time with my friends and family. I am so excited for the start of the school year! I can't wait to meet all my kindergarten students!

**Kristin Lichliter, Teacher**

Hello! My name is Miss Lichliter and I teach kindergarten. This will be my sixth year teaching at Swansfield! I love teaching kindergarten and I love seeing how much my students grow from the beginning of the year to the end! In my free time I love to read and cross stitch. I can't wait for this school year to begin!

**Emily Rooths, Teacher**

Hello! My name is Mrs.Rooths and I love teaching kindergarten! This is my 22nd year of teaching at Swansfield Elementary School. I even attended Swansfield as a student. I live in the community with my husband, my son and my daughter. Some of my hobbies include gardening and doing yoga. I am looking forward to meeting my new class and I know that we will have a great school year!

**Ana Adao-Moore, Paraeducator**

Hi! My name is Ana Adao-Moore and I am a kindergarten paraeducator at Swansfield Elementary. My favorite quote is; "You can make a great day or not, the choice is yours.”

**Courtney McDevitt, Paraeducator**

Hello! My name is Ms.McDevitt and I am one of the paraeducators on the kindergarten team. This is my third year at Swansfield and my second year in kindergarten. I love my job and love being able to get to know all the students in the school. Outside of school, I love going to the beach and listening to music. I can't wait to get high fives in the mornings to start my day.

**First Grade**

**Iyanna Nelson, Instructional Team Leader**

Hi! My name is Ms. Nelson and I will be the first grade ITL. I love first grade and all of the exploring, learning, and fun we get to have! I grew up in The Big Apple, New York City, and I love to go home and visit often. I can’t wait to spend the next year learning and growing with you!

**Corey Barrett, Teacher**

Hello! My name is Corey Barrett and I am entering my third year as a teacher. I am entering my third year of teaching from Kindergarten to 1st grade. I am excited to be in 1st Grade this year. Kindergarten I love helping young children discover and foster a love for learning that they can carry with them throughout their lives. I have a wild almost-two-year-old who keeps me busy and entertained outside of school. Can't wait to meet all the new Swans this school year!

**Maria Keefe, Teacher**

Hello! I am Maria Keefe and I am excited to be returning as one of the first grade teachers at Swansfield. One of my favorite parts of teaching is making connections with students and families. My hobbies include hiking and doing artwork. I am bilingual and enjoy celebrating my Cuban heritage. I look forward to meeting you!

**Olivia Roberts, Teacher**

Hello! My name is Ms. Roberts, and I teach first grade. This will be my third year at Swansfield and I am excited for the new year. When I’m not at school, I enjoy traveling, being at the beach, and spending time with family. I will be getting married this October and will officially be Mrs. Mooney. Let’s make this year a great one!

**Sade Dukes, Paraeducator**

**Second Grade**

**Stephanie Dapko, Instructional Team Leader**

Hello! My name is Stephanie Dapko. This is my fourth year at Swansfield and my third year as ITL. I have two children who also attend HCPSS. We love to foster rescue puppies and enjoy outdoor adventures. We also love reading together at night, even at the ages of 10 and 12.

**Esther Hur, Teacher**

Hi! My name is Ms. Hur and I am a second grade teacher. This is my second year at Swansfield and I am so excited to meet everyone - to learn and grow together. A fun fact about me is that I started learning how to embroider the summer!

**Holly Jones, Teacher**

My name is Ms. Jones and I am looking forward to teaching second grade this year! This will be my third year teaching second grade. When I am not teaching, I enjoy walking my dog, going on hikes, and baking.

**Maria Pisca, Teacher**

Hello Swansfield! My name is Maria Pisca and I am one of the AMAZING second grade teachers! I am so excited to start my second year as a teacher at Swansfield! All together this is my 12th year as a teacher in Howard County. Prior to coming to Swansfield I taught second and fourth grade at other HCPSS schools. I have two children, Julian (6) and Viola (3). We love to spend time together, especially at the beach. We also love to read books, and play outside. I LOVE being a teacher, knowing that I get to work with such wonderful students and inspire them to be great. It is the reason why I chose to become a teacher.

**Laura Zawodny, Teacher**

Hi! I am Mrs. Zawodny, a second grade teacher. This is my first year at Swansfield and I am excited to be a part of this school community! I spent the last three years at home with my two children; a son who is 5 and a daughter who is 3. Prior to taking leave I taught over at Longfellow Elementary for nine years. I look forward to meeting you all soon!

**Sharmila Agrawal, Paraeducator**

**SAVE THE DATES**

* **Live Read Aloud**: Monday, July 27, 7pm. Code: ses-storytime
* **Grade 1 Virtual Gathering:** Tuesday, July 28, 5:00pm. Code ses-gr1-july28
* **Live Read Aloud:** Wednesday, July 29, 7pm. Code: ses-storytime
* **Grade 4 Virtual Gathering:** Thursday, July 30, 11am. Code: ses-gr4-july30
* **Live Read Aloud**: Friday, July 31, 2pm. Code ses-storytime
* **Live Read Aloud:** Monday, August 3, 7pm. Code ses-storytime
* **New Kindergarten Student Meet & Greet**: Tuesday, August 4, 7pm. Code: ses-welcome-kinders