



Shelley Andres's Professional Bio:

Shelley started her teaching career at St. Labre, a small catholic Indian school on the Northern Cheyenne Reservation teaching 4th grade. In 2009, Shelley and her family moved back to the Missoula area and she was the reading coordinator, dean of students and vice principal at K William Harvey Elementary in Ronan for two years. Shelley received her masters in educational leadership from the U of M in 2012. During this time, she joined MAEMSP and enjoyed collaborating with colleagues from all over Montana. From 2013 to 2018 Shelley was the Western Region Director for MAEMSP. She was the principal at DeSmet for 5 years and during this time she was awarded the 2012 partnership in curriculum and instruction award from the U of M.

Shelley and her husband Tom are the proud parents of 4 children. Education runs in their blood, Tom and their two daughters are agriculture education teachers and their oldest son is a chemical engineer and their youngest son is a junior at MSU studying mechanical engineering.

Shelley is currently the SAM President and she is in her 7th year at Bonner as the Proud Principal of Bonner School!



Shawn Hendrickson's Professional Bio:

Shawn Hendrickson is the current principal at St. Ignatius Middle and High School, where he's been for the past 8 years. This is his 18th year as a principal and 23rd in education. Shawn was selected as the MASSP Principal of the Year and a National Distinguished Principal in 2020. He enjoys long walks on the beach, the occasional stand-up bit, and candle lit dinners.



Gordon Klasna's Professional Bio:

Gordon Klasna is in his 29th year as an educator. The first 10 years of his career he served as a Choir Director, working in Billings, MT at the Yellowstone Boys & Girls Ranch, Hermiston High School in Hermiston, OR and Lewistown, MT at Lewistown Junior High and Fergus High School. As an administrator he worked in the Billings School District at Billings West High School and Riverside Middle School. He is currently in his 12th year at Lockwood School District where he has served as the principal of Eileen Johnson Middle School and is now in his 4th year as the principal of Lockwood High School, which he had the unique opportunity of opening.

Outside of school Gordon likes to spend time with his wife of 27 years, Sheri, and skiing and hiking with his kids, Caleb and Areya. He also enjoys working in his garage on various woodworking and house projects.

Gordon was the 2017 Montana Principal of the Year.



Jon Konen's Professional Bio:

Jon Konen is a high school principal and freelance writer in Columbia Falls, Montana. He has taught almost all grade levels K-6, been an instructional coach, an elementary and middle school principal, as well as a superintendent.

As a 5th grade teacher, in 2010 Jon won the Presidential Award for Elementary Math

and Science Teaching (PAEMST). As a principal, his school won the 2012 Blue Ribbon Award. In 2018, he won the National Distinguished Principal Award (NDP). In 2019 he won the National No Kid Hungry Breakfast Hero Award.

Jon is also a consultant, Principal Reads Consulting, and is a frequent presenter on social and emotional learning, behavior interventions, and school culture.

Jon is the author of three guides published on www.teacher.org: An Educator's Guide to Combat Bullying & Bully Prevention; Teacher Evaluation: A Transition Guide to Exemplary Performance; and You are the Wild Card: Infusing Fun Back into Curriculum. He has authored a children's picture book focused on social and emotional learning that was released in January 2019 titled Benjamin's Visit to Principal Reads Office...again!



Marlin Lewis's Professional Bio:

Prior to becoming the Hamilton High School Principal, Marlin K. Lewis served as the Principal of Hamilton Middle School from 2013 to 2022. During that time, he enthusiastically and successfully helmed a major transformation at the school. At a time when the school was losing a number of students, which had a major impact on the school's budget, Mr. Lewis recommended a district-wide reconfiguration that added approximately 130 new students to the study body. Undaunted by the addition of so many new students, he used this as a chance to innovate, collaborating with staff to introduce exciting new STEM opportunities, civic education, and additional arts programming. Mr. Lewis has a keen sense of the strengths and challenges inherent in leading a small-town school and has built links to the community through student service projects, clubs, and mentorship programs with local leaders. Colleagues describe him as a welcoming and forward-thinking principal who will always go the extra mile to help students achieve. He holds an Administrative Certification, a Master's in Mathematics, and Bachelor's in Mathematics from Montana State University - Bozeman.



Pam Meier's Professional Bio:

Pam has taught 2nd, 4th and 5th grades for 14 years in Iowa, New York, Utah, and Montana. This is Pam's 17th year being a principal and she is currently at Arrowhead Elementary in Billings. Pam was Montana's National Distinguished Principal for 2021. She is married to Keith and has two children, Garret and McKenna.



Travis Niemeyer's Professional Bio:

Travis Niemeyer is the principal of Beartooth Elementary in Billings, MT. He was a recipient of the Presidential Award in Elementary Math and Science Teaching in 2006 and a National Distinguished Principal in 2020. He has served leadership positions in his local administrative board and is currently coauthoring a book that focuses on strategic moves to build school culture.