



MEET YOUR QPS K-5 SSFLs

K-5 Learning Communities Newsletter

February 2018

QPS began the K-5 Learning Communities Newsletter to help inform our families of the changes related to our transition to a K-5 district. Previous editions of our newsletter can be found at www.qps.org; by clicking 'New K5 Boundaries' (located on the left-hand side directly beneath the homepage slider of photos). Then click "QPS K-5 Learning Communities Plan." Hard copies of this year's newsletters will be distributed to all pre-k through 4th grade students; and sent via Skyward Family Access to **all** QPS families whom have provided e-mail addresses to the District.

What is a Student Support and Family Liaison (SSFL)?

The role of the Student Support and Family Liaison (SSFL) is to help students resolve personal, emotional, and social problems which interfere with learning to assure that each student and his/her family can take full advantage of the educational opportunities provided. The SSFL utilizes knowledge of child and family development, Illinois Social and Emotional Learning Standards, Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports, as well as Quincy Public Schools Second Step curriculum program and activities. The SSFL works closely with students, families, and staff members to implement effective plans designed by the Help Every Learner Prosper (HELP) Team for achieving academic or behavioral success in the classroom, on the school bus, or at home.

Valarie Bordenkircher: SSFL - Iles Elementary

Mrs. Bordenkircher began her career with Quincy Public Schools in Baldwin South, twenty-four years ago. She has served in several positions: program paraeducator, ISS supervisor, and currently STAR Guide. She graduated from Culver-Stockton College with a Bachelor's Degree in English and attended Quincy University focusing on graduate level Special Education coursework. Mrs. Bordenkircher feels her greatest strength is building and maintaining relationships. She is looking forward to building those partnerships with all stakeholders at Iles Elementary. She believes when school and home work together, children have greater successes. She brings a positive outlook to the learning environment and wants to help students achieve their goals as engaged student learners. Mrs. Bordenkircher is married to Jerry; they have two children, one daughter-in-law, and two grandchildren.



Travis Dinkheller: SSFL - Rooney Elementary

Mr. Dinkheller began working for the Quincy Public School District in 2001 as a STAR Guide at Irving Elementary School. Upon the closure of Irving, Mr. Dinkheller moved to the same position at Adams Elementary. He is also the varsity girls soccer coach for Quincy Senior High, and serves as an assistant varsity coach for the boys soccer program. Prior to joining the QPS Family, Mr. Dinkheller worked as a SASS Case Manager for Transitions of Western Illinois. He holds a master level certificate as a trainer in Non-violent Crisis Intervention. Mr. Dinkheller is married to Kim Dinkheller, who is also employed by QPS as Quincy Junior High School Assistant Principal. They have one child, Cooper. He is a 5th grade student at Baldwin in Mrs. Eisenberg's class. Mr. Dinkheller is looking forward to the opportunities that await in the creation and development of the Rooney Elementary school climate and culture.



Brigham John: SSFL - Elementary at the Harrison Site

Mr. John has worked in the Quincy Public School District for the last six years. He is currently the SSFL at ABC Academy where he has been for the past five years. While serving in this position, he has been the PBIS coach for the past two years and is also a certified CPI trainer for the school district. Mr. John received his Bachelor's Degree from Western Illinois University in 2004 before moving to the Quincy area in 2007. Prior to working for QPS he served as a detention officer at the Adams County Juvenile Detention Center. He has been married to his wife Abbie (who also works for QPS as a School Psychologist) for thirteen years and they have two amazing daughters. Mr. John is excited to be part of the new Harrison site team, the new building, and meeting the many fresh faces in the coming school year!



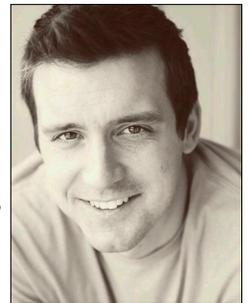
Chris Martin: SSFL - Lincoln-Douglas Elementary

Mr. Martin began working for the Quincy Public School District in 2005. During his time at QPS he has served the District in a number of different roles. He currently serves as the STAR Guide in Baldwin West. Mr. Martin enjoys working closely with students and families alike, and looks forward to building more of the same positive relationships in the near future in his new Learning Community. Mr. Martin earned his Bachelor's Degrees in 2001 while studying Psychology and Sociology at Eastern Illinois University. He is married to his wife Kate and they have a one-year-old son named Griffin. They are anxiously awaiting the arrival of their daughter this April.



Shawn Sparrow: SSFL - Baldwin Elementary

Mr. Sparrow is in his 7th year with Quincy Public Schools. He has been at Dewey Elementary as a Student Support and Family Liaison for his entire seven years at QPS. He received his Bachelor's Degree from Quincy University. Mr. Sparrow and his wife, Maria, have been married for almost 8 years and they have a 14-month-old daughter. He looks forward to working with students and families in his role as SSFL for Thomas S. Baldwin Elementary.



REFRESHER ON: How to find your home on the Approved K-5 Learning Communities Map

1. Visit www.qps.org

2. Click "New K5 Boundaries" located below the photo slider, at the bottom left of the QPS homepage

3. CAREFULLY follow the instructions for the "Interactive Map" by reading the text in the center of the page.

1. Visit www.qps.org
2. Click "New K5 Boundaries" located below the photo slider, at the bottom left of the QPS homepage

Follow these instructions to locate your home on the INTERACTIVE MAP

Choose this INTERACTIVE MAP to view the K-5 Elementary School in which your home is located. You must type in your address by clicking on the magnifying glass near the top left corner of the page.

4. Once you arrive at the "Interactive" (shown left) opportunity to enter your street address.
5. Type your address, hit "enter", and the map will place a RED DOT at the location of your home.
6. The different colored areas on the map indicate the different K-5 boundaries; the key to the map is located on the left (shown in image).

Click on the MAGNIFYING GLASS BEFORE you type in your address