



All Stars Montessori
Apple Valley, MN

Fall 2011-
Staff Introduction

Infants

Denise Muir

Ms. Denise is one of the owners of All Stars Montessori. She ran All Stars from her home with Ms. Tracy for three years before opening this school. She has her Montessori Certificate with a specialization in infants and toddlers. She also has a background in the medical field. Ms. Denise lives in Rosemount with her youngest son (13). Her middle son (20) lives in Eagan. Her oldest son (31) also lives in Eagan and teaches and coaches at District 196 schools.



Heather Grafstrom

Ms. Heather works alongside Ms. Denise in the infant room. She has been with All Stars as a parent since they started in the home and as a teacher since September 2009. She has experience in child care and has loved caring for babies since she was young. She is currently attending school towards her Undergraduate Certificate in Early Childhood. She loves the infant stage – loves to cuddle and loves to watch them grow! Ms. Heather lives with her husband and son (7) in Farmington.



Old Infants

Kate Papaqui

Ms. Kate works with the old infants. She has been with All Stars since March 2009. She has worked in Montessori child care for twelve years. She has a certificate in Child Day Care and has taken many nursing classes as well. She loves working with this age and being a part of the new things they discover each day. Ms. Kate lives in Burnsville with her husband and two daughters (8 & 5).



Deanna Borbor

Ms. Deanna works along side Ms. Kate and the old infants. She has been with All Stars since October 2009. She has worked in child care in the past and also has experience in Montessori. She loves how full of energy old infants are and that they are so cuddly and happy. Ms. Deanna lives in Rosemount with her husband and her son (9) and daughter (4).



Old Infants (cont)

Jessica Myhre

Ms. Jessica works alongside Ms. Deanna and Ms. Kate and the old infants. She has been with All Stars since February 2010. She has many years of experience in the child care field including working with the Head Start program. She enjoys watching how children grow and make so many new discoveries. Ms. Jessica lives in Burnsville with her two sons (8 & 4) and her daughter (4 months).



Deb Miller

Ms. Deb works with our old infants as well as our school age children alongside Ms. Kirsten. She has many years of experience in childcare including once having her own home daycare when her daughters were small. She also worked with Ms. Denise & Ms. Tracy at their in-home. She loves seeing how eager the children are to learn and develop their own personalities. Ms. Deb lives with her husband in Northfield. She has two grown daughters and three grandsons and one granddaughter.



Jordan Augustin

Ms. Jordan joined All Stars in January of 2011. She works afternoons with the old infants. Ms. Jordan loves helping the old infants grow and enjoys helping them learn new things. Ms. Jordan is currently a Senior at Eastview High School in Apple Valley.



Toddlers

Brittany Neumann

Ms. Brittany (or Ms. Burtney as she's called by her toddlers) works alongside Ms. Kieya in our toddler program. She has been with All Stars since February 2010. Ms. Brittany will be starting school for Montessori training. She loves how each child has their own unique personality and especially loves how the toddlers are still not too big to cuddle. Ms. Brittany lives with her son (7) in Prescott, WI.



Kieya Ballard-Tyler

Ms. Kieya works with the toddlers. She has been with All Stars since September 2007 and has worked in the toddler program since she started. She has experience with child care in both a school setting and also as a private nanny. She loves how the children's' minds work and how they explore their environment so deliberately. Ms. Kieya lives in Burnsville with her her two sons (9 & 3) and her daughter (4 months).



Preschool 1

Tracy Magnuson

Ms. Tracy is one of the owners of All Stars Montessori. She received her Montessori Degree from St. Catherine's and has been working in Montessori for 20 years. She loves sharing Montessori with her co-teachers and with the children. She loves to see the eagerness to learn that develops in each child as they explore and play. Ms. Tracy lives in Apple Valley with her three children (13, 8, 4).



Lynnsey Carlsen

Ms. Lynnsey joined All Stars in March of 2011. She works with the preschoolers alongside Ms. Tracy and has over five years experience working with children. She is dedicated to helping children grow into their own person. She has received her National CDA Credentials. Ms. Lynnsey lives in Apple Valley with her husband and a baby on the way.



Collette Ilinkovich

Ms. Collette joined All Stars in December 2010. She has many years of experience with children and loves working with all ages. Ms. Collette will work alongside Ms. Tracy and Ms. Lynnsey as well as Ms. Denise in the infant room. She is loving and caring and enjoys being a part of the children's lives through all of the stages. Collette lives with her fiancé in Savage.



Preschool 2

Carolyn Finken

Ms. Carolyn lived in Las Vegas for many years where she worked with children of all ages. Ms. Carolyn joined All Stars in January 2008. She loves to keep children engaged in creative and active play while incorporating learning into their environment. She is the proud mom of two daughters and grandma of two granddaughters. She loves to see children smile. Carolyn lives in Eagan.



Samantha Marhula

Ms. Samantha joined All Stars in the Spring of 2009. She previously worked as a substitute in all age groups and will be working alongside Ms. Carolyn in the preschool age classroom. She enjoys providing a Montessori environment for the children that allows them to learn through exploration. Ms. Samantha has a son and a daughter and lives in Rosemount with her family.



Preschool 3

Samantha Schackman

Ms. Samantha joined All Stars in the Summer of 2011. She has her Bachelors degree in Family Social Science and has worked in the Montessori setting for over 5 years. She was also a nanny and has experience in early childhood health care setting. Ms. Sam works alongside Ms. Michele in the preschool age classroom. She lives in Farmington.



Michele Harris

Ms. Michele joined All Stars in September 2011. She has several years of experience in early childhood learning centers, as well as nannying. She is currently working towards her Bachelors degree in Early Childhood Studies. Ms. Michele will be working with Ms. Sam S in the preschool age classroom. She lives in Eagan.



Kelley Hyytinen

Ms. Kelley joined All Stars in the Summer of 2011. She is good friends with Ms. Tracy and has also worked in the Montessori setting for nearly 20 years. Ms. Kelley works in the mornings with preschoolers. She brings an enthusiastic energy to the classroom and is loved by all of the children.



Sarah Krummel

Ms. Sarah joined All Stars in the Summer of 2011. She works afternoons with the preschoolers four days a week. Ms. Sarah is passionate about children and helping them grow. Ms. Sarah is currently a Senior at Eastview High School in Apple Valley.



Preschool 4 & School Age

Kirsten Countryman

Ms. Kirsten works with our preschoolers in the morning and school age children in the afternoon. She started working in preschool about five years ago and she loved it so much that she went on to get her Associates Degree in Child Development. She loves the children's excitement for life and finds the funny things they sometimes say to be priceless. Ms. Kirsten lives in Lakeville.



Preschool 4 & School Age (cont)

Hannah Crookes

Ms. Hannah joined All Stars in the Summer of 2010. She works afternoons with the school age group. Hannah loves playing games with the children and helping them learn new things. Hannah is currently a Senior at the School of Environmental Studies in Apple Valley.



Support Staff

Erika Owens

Ms. Erika spends most of her time in the office, but is sure to get out and see the children throughout the day. She has many years of experience in both child care and administration. She enjoys making sure things at All Stars run smoothly and loves to be able to stop in and hang out with all of the children. Ms. Erika lives with her husband and three sons (14, 10 & 8) in Rosemount.



Jessica Behm

Ms. Jessica joined All Stars in March 2011. She has worked with the preschool and infant classrooms; her past experience in child care includes long-term nannying. Ms. Jessica will be assisting Ms. Erika in the office as well as spending time in the infant and preschool rooms. Ms. Jessica has a Bachelors degree in Marketing and is almost finished with her Masters degree in Project Management. Ms. Jessica lives in Eagan with her fiancé, who is also Ms. Denise's oldest son.



All of our staff are experienced with children and genuinely love to work with them. We work together as a team and each of our staff are "cross-trained" to be knowledgeable with all age groups. Because our goal is to maintain a warm, home-like environment, the children have an opportunity to get to know all of the teachers and relationships are cultivated and nurtured throughout each child's attendance at All Stars Montessori. Our staff is versatile and flexible and always ready to adjust with us as we grow and hire new staff. We know that's what makes a successful school, happy well-adjusted children, and happy teachers who enjoy coming to school each day to educate and care for your children.