

Welcome New Faculty/Staff

American Heritage School 2009-2010!

May 30, 2009

We are very pleased to announce the following newly hired teachers to American Heritage School. This year the School had more applicants, and more qualified applicants, than in any previous year. As you come to know and love these new teachers (just as our administration, board, faculty, and students have done over the last few months interviewing and observing them), we hope you will agree with us that each of these teachers was guided by a Providential Hand to American Heritage School! Congratulations again to each of these teachers!

Sincerely, --Grant Beckwith, Principal

Nicholas Gentile – 10th Grade Core, French

Mr. Gentile (pronounced Gen - teel) comes to American Heritage School from The Fenn School in Concord Massachusetts, where he taught History, English, Soccer, Skating, and Baseball, working with multiple grade levels (5-9). Among his many accomplishments while at The Fenn School, Nicholas wrote a textbook titled *Puzzle Pieces: An Introductory Primary Source Reader for Ancient China*, and it was published in 2008. Prior to his teaching experience, Nicholas attended Brandeis University on a prestigious Crown Fellowship and graduated with a Masters degree in History, having been trained in primary-source-based research, analytical writing, the methodologies of the historian's craft, and American historiography by the Pulitzer-Prize winning author of *Washington's Crossing*, Dr. David Hackett Fischer. While at Brandeis Nicholas taught a survey course and colloquia at the college level. Nicholas graduated with bachelor's degree in History from Brigham Young University *Summa Cum Laude* as a valedictorian, a winner of the History Department Outstanding Undergraduate Award, and a Hinckley Scholar. Nicholas is fluent in Korean and studied French at the university level during six years. He has taught at the MTC and early-morning seminary. He and his wife, Christina, are the parents of one daughter and—soon to be—one son. We are delighted to announce Nicholas's addition to the American Heritage School faculty.

Laura Scholl – 9th Grade Core, Debate

Ms. Scholl received a bachelor's degree in English Teaching and a minor in History Teaching from BYU. She began teaching at Payson High School and remained there for eight years, during which time she taught a variety of classes: English 10 and 11, Advanced Placement English Literature and Composition, International Baccalaureate, US History, ESL, and Speech/Debate. She also mentored two student teachers and served as the advisor for the National Honor Society. Laura recently took a break from teaching to serve a full-time mission for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in California. As a missionary, she created a curriculum used to teach English as a Second Language classes and provided training for other missionaries in effective teaching methods. Upon returning to Utah, she began teaching at Hillcrest High School, where she is currently teaching English 11, AP English Literature and Composition, International Baccalaureate, and Speech/Debate. We are thrilled to welcome Laura to American Heritage School.

Stephen Carman – 9th Grade Core, Spanish

Mr. Carman graduated from BYU, earning a bachelor's in Social Sciences. He continued his education at the University of Utah, recently finishing a Masters degree in Communication. During the past several years, Stephen has taught intermediate and professional writing at the University of Utah where he developed extensive curriculum and built meaningful relationships with students and supervisors. Stephen loves to travel and has visited many countries in Europe, South America (he communicates in Spanish fluently), and the Middle East. Welcome to the American Heritage School, Mr. Carman.

Laura Yamada – 8th Grade Core

Mrs. Yamada earned both a Bachelor's and a Master's degree in English from Brigham Young University, where she taught six semester courses of "College Reading and Writing". She was honored as a finalist for the Rowe Teaching Award. She also excelled in her undergraduate studies, graduating *Summa Cum Laude*. Laura has studied both history and religion at the Brigham Young University Jerusalem Center and at important sites throughout Israel, Egypt, Turkey, and Greece. She has also participated in a study abroad program in Mexico, served an LDS mission in Japan, and spent a total of six years living in Asia, which allowed her to visit historical sites in China, Korea, Hong Kong, Singapore, Malaysia, and Indonesia. Laura is the mother of five sons. We look forward to Laura's teaching at the American Heritage School.

David Goff – Upper Grade Math

Mr. Goff comes to American Heritage School from Encampment K-12 School in Wyoming where he currently teaches Science 6, Science 8, Pre-algebra, Consumer Math (11, 12), High School Algebra, Physics 11, and Calculus 12. Among many involvements at the school, he personally built and maintained a class website for all his classes where the students and their parents could stay up-to-date with the class and assignments. He has additional middle school teaching experience in Uintah School District, where he taught middle school math (6-8) at West Middle School. Prior to his teaching experience, David studied physics at both Utah Valley State College and Utah State University. He obtained a bachelor's of science degree in Physics with a minor in Mathematics from USU, where his research focused on nanotechnology and fabrication for the optics industry. David has been able to infuse his physics expertise into his teaching of Math. David is an excellent bass singer and cellist and is also fluent in French. He and his wife, Marie, are the parents of one son and two daughters. We are pleased to announce Mr. Goff's joining our faculty.

Andrew Griffith – 8th Grade

Mr. Griffith comes to American Heritage School from Pleasant Grove, Utah. He graduated from Brigham Young University with a B.A. in Political Science and brings with him a strong background in business and corporate education, including as a corporate trainer, project manager, and leader on management teams. Andrew created training plans, conducted “boot camps” for learning project management skills, and led onsite and web-based trainings. Andrew is a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Eagle Scout, and BSA Merit Badge Counselor. He and his wife, Karen, are the parents of four sons and a daughter. We are thrilled to have Andrew join the American Heritage School team.

Jereamie Randall – 6th Grade

Mr. Randall joins American Heritage School from Arizona. He earned his bachelor’s degree in Elementary Education from Brigham Young University-Idaho and is currently working on a Master’s degree in Political Economy at George Wythe University. Before coming to American Heritage School, Jereamie taught elementary school for five years—three years of 3rd grade, one of 4th grade, and one of 5th grade. Jereamie brings extensive background in early American history and government and constitutional studies, and he has taught these subjects to school-aged children for the past five years. Jereamie served a two-year LDS mission in Sao-Paulo, Brazil. He and his wife, Shelly, have three children. We look forward to Jereamie’s teaching at the American Heritage School.

Angela McIntyre – 3rd Grade

Mrs. McIntyre joins the American Heritage School from American Fork, Utah. She earned a Bachelor of Arts in Communications from Brigham Young University and a Minor in Business Management. She has worked as a para-educator at Barratt Elementary (American Fork) where she has also been a substitute teacher and PTA president. Her teaching and leadership has included broad experience in student tutoring, parent training, and public relations. She has taught and led in LDS primaries, Sunday schools, and scouting organizations. Angie and her husband, Don, are the parents of a son and a daughter. We are pleased to announce Mrs. McIntyre’s joining our faculty.

Denise Gorrell– 2nd Grade

Mrs. Gorrell comes to American Heritage School from American Fork, Utah. She graduated from Brigham Young University with a B.S. in Family Science. Denise also earned a Master’s of Education from Lesley University with an emphasis on integrating the arts in teaching all subjects. Denise has taught pre-school level Montessori classes since 1990 and incorporated the Noah Plan curriculum into her lesson plans. She has served on the Highland City Library Board. Denise and her husband, Jerry, are the parents of four children. Welcome, Mrs. Gorrell!

Melanie Bills – Library

Mrs. Bills has been involved with American Heritage School since 1999 when her oldest child started kindergarten. All three of her children have attended American Heritage School. She served in the classroom and library until 2005, when her love of education and teaching led her to the third grade teaching position at American Heritage School. In 2009, she moved from full time teaching to full time librarian. Her other interests are learning, reading, music, scrapbooking, and four-wheeling.

Welcome New Faculty Members!