

Richard McKenna Charter High School Onsite Faculty



Mr. Chris Armstrong, B.S.

Math, Technology

Born and raised near Seattle, WA, Chris developed a passion in school for all things involving design and construction. He initially pursued engineering, and later architecture as his educational disciplines. He finally decided to attend the University of Idaho to study Technology Education. This would allow him to become a secondary education instructor who is qualified to teach about engineering, construction, architecture, computers, and all other types of fields involving technology.

Chris believes strongly that design and technology is a great area to allow students to think critically, as well as to apply concepts and knowledge learned in other core subjects such as mathematics, science, writing, research, history, and others.



Mrs. Winkie Felton, B.S.

Independent Study

I was raised in Mountain Home and have been here most of my life. I worked as a teaching assistant in Bliss for a couple of years and found that I liked working with the students. When we moved back to Mountain Home I worked as a teaching assistant with the Mountain Home School District before being offered a job with the Idaho Private Industry Council teaching high school age students employability skills. During this time I was granted an Idaho teaching certificate based on my work experience. When the Private Industry Council's federal monies dried up I was hired by the MH school district to teach foundation skills and work place readiness. In 2004 I left the MH school district to teach at Richard McKenna Charter High School. I have taken classes from the University of Idaho, Boise State University, College of Southern Idaho and Northwest Nazarene College. I believe that I have the best job in the world and I do not want to work anywhere else.



Mrs. Kim Flick, B.A.

Elements of English I & II, Academic Support

My name is Mrs. Flick. I have been teaching for 14 years and have enjoyed it very much. This is my third year teaching at Richard McKenna. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions and I'll try to help you in any way I can.

I live in Wendell (near Twin Falls) with my husband and 4 children. In my spare time I enjoy scrap booking, gardening, sewing, and spending time with my family. I also enjoy spending time with my chickens, horses, dogs, cats, and my children's 4-H pigs. Life is very busy at my house but I love every minute of it.

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Mr. Sidney (Gig) Grubb, B.F.A.

Art, Social Studies

I was born in San Antonio, Texas, but only lived there a short time as my father was in the Air Force. We ended up in Mountain Home and I did all my schooling there until graduation in 1967. I married my wife in 1968 and we have two sons and one daughter. I graduated from the U of I in 1972 with a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree.

I taught for a few years in the traditional school system, then worked in an auto parts business with my father for about ten years. Using my art background, I started a sign business in Mountain Home called Grubbrother Arts which is connected to the CarQuest store. Now my two sons operate the business.

I have been teaching at Richard McKenna High since 1992, teaching art and social studies. I started doing online World History courses with IDVHS (Now part of Richard McKenna Charter High School) in 2002. In 2006 I began teaching the online Art History class.

My wife and I were able to go to Rome, Florence, Venice, Milan and Paris in the summer of 2007. There I was able to see some of the works of art that are featured in the Art History course.



Mr. Jose Madarieta, B.A.

Language Arts, Humanities

José has been teaching at our school since the fifteenth of October, 1990. Since that day he and his students have endeavored, through reading, writing, listening, speaking, and viewing, to understand just what a piece of work is a man. José and his students will never reach a definitive answer to the question, but throughout their journey they seek to gain a better understanding of mankind in general and themselves in particular, and to gain the skills that will allow them to successfully communicate their findings to others. To borrow from the poet T.S. Eliot, "[They] shall not cease from [their] exploration, and the end of all [their] exploring will be to arrive where [they] started and know the place for the first time."

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Mr. Todd Thorn, B.S., M.S.

Science, Social Studies

I was born in 1965 in Salt Lake City, UT. However, I spent much of my life living elsewhere including Minnesota, Idaho, California, Connecticut, Wyoming and Montana most recently, before returning to Idaho after a near 30 year absence.

My wife Marnie I live in Boise with our dog Jake and a black cat, Itchy. Hailey, my daughter, lives in SLC but visits us often.

I graduated from Utah State University in Logan, UT in 1988 when I earned a B.S. in Geography with a minor in Political Science and completion of the secondary education program. In 1994 I earned my M.S. in Outdoor Recreation Management, also from USU.

In my post college life I have been a ski patroller, ski instructor, 6 years in Montana as a Park Ranger and several years working with satellite images and creating maps. For the past 7 years I have been working in education here in Idaho; three years in the Blaine County School District (Ketchum) and now entering my fifth year at RMCHS.

I feel fortunate to have been able to have such a diverse work background and have it relate so closely to my college studies.

Outside of my school life our family loves to travel internationally each summer. Our travels have mostly been to Europe, but our other destinations include the Caribbean and South America and of course Hawaii.

I believe that a person's experiences and memories are the most valuable possessions they have, and that travel contributes greatly to a person's "wealth" and to the creation of a community of humans that both recognize similarities between the peoples of the world and appreciate their differences.

Outside of travel I enjoy reading, movies and outdoor recreation. I think reading well and enjoying reading are the most important skills/habits to engage in life-long learning.

At school I seek to coach students in their academic learning and personal growth. Education, like life, is about the journey, not the destination. It is not about the "credits" you earn, it is about developing skills, habits and acquiring knowledge that will allow you to excel in life. I will work hard to help you learn, but the desire, dedication and effort must come from each student, especially in an online environment.

That's About All Folks!!