

Pioneer Elementary School
 1400 East Braman Ave | Bismarck, ND 58501
 Tel: 701-323-4220 | Fax: 701-323-4225

Christopher Narum | Principal



Fall 2023

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Hiring high quality teachers is a priority at our school. Through federal law, you have the right to information about the professional qualifications of teachers and paraprofessionals at our school. We wish to share that with you.

To be “highly qualified” under federal law, teachers must:

1. have a state teaching certificate or license
2. have a bachelor’s degree, AND
3. for “new” elementary teachers, pass a rigorous test; for “new” middle/senior high teachers, pass a rigorous test or have major/coursework
4. for “not new” teachers, pass a rigorous test, major/coursework, or state evaluation.

Teacher Name	Grade Level and/or Subject	Bachelor's Degree Major and/or Minor	Graduate Degree and Field of Study	Years of Teaching Experience	Meets State Qualifications & Licensing
Andvik, Rebecca	EL	BS Elem Ed		22	yes
Baker, Pamela	Grade 3	BS Elem Ed	MS Educational Leadership	27	yes
Caturia, Ivy	SLD/ID	BA Elem Ed/ Special Ed	MAED Early Childhood	8	Yes
Cimarosti, Tomi	PREP Coord	BS Criminal Justice/Psych		3	yes
Dora, Stephen	Grade 5	BS Elem Ed		1	Yes
Erdhart, Anna	Grade 4	BS Elem Ed	Enrolled in NDSU- Educational Leadership		Yes
Famias, Ashley	Social Worker	BS Social Work/Psychology		2	yes
Jacobson, Krista	Music/Band	BA Music		12	yes
Johnson, Jaime	Speech	BS Communication Disorders	MS Speech/Lang Pathology	19	yes
Lahr, Jenna	Social Worker	BS Social Work/Psych		5	yes
Larshus, Abby	Kindergarten	BS Elem Ed/ Early Childhood Educ	MA Differentiated Instruction	7	yes
Meier, RyLee	Grade 4	BS Elem Ed/ BS Human Dev & Fam Sci		7	yes
Morrell, Amber	Title I Reading	BS Elem Ed	MS Reading	11	yes
Morrow, Jenny	LMS	BA English Lit	MS Literary Science	6	yes

Narum, Christopher	Principal	BS Psychology	MS School Counseling, MS Educational Leadership	12	Yes
Pilon, Allison	Grade 1	BS Elem Ed		4	yes
Reisenauer, Lindsey	Title I Math	BS Elem Ed/Special Ed		14	yes
Riedman, Shanna	Grade 5	BS Elem Ed		4	yes
San Jose, Bethany	Spec Ed	BS Elem Ed/Special Ed		10	yes
Schaff, Nicole	Instructional Coach/VP	BS Elem Ed/MS Endorsement	Educational Leadership & Admin	12	yes
Schneider, Nicole	Grade 1	BS Elem Ed	MS Early Childhood Ed	33	yes
Stein, Kimberly	GT	BS Elem Ed/Math	MS Curriculum-Instr/ Gifted & Talented	24	yes
Taylor, Jeromie	Physical Ed	BS Elem Ed/Phys Education	MS Educ Leadership	19	yes
Thompson, Taylor	Grade 3	BS Elem Ed/ BS Human Dev & Fam Sci	MS Educ	7	yes
Traynor, Molly	OT	BS Occupational Therapy		15	yes
Wescom, Erica	Grade 2	BS Elem Ed		5	yes
Westergren, Ramona	Counselor	BS Psych	MS School Counseling	2	yes
Weston, Lexi	Grade 2	BS Elem Ed	MS Curriculum and Instruction	9	yes
Zander, Courtney	Orchestra	BS		7	Yes

If these state qualifications have not been met, we will be working with staff to complete them in a timely manner. This may require teacher testing or additional college courses.

Additional qualified staff working with our learners:

Staff Member	Subject	Bachelor's Degree Major and/or Minor	Graduate Degree and Field of Study	Years of BPS Experience	Meets State Qualifications & Licensing
Cimarosti, Tomi	PREP Coord	BS Criminal Justice/Psych		3	yes
Famias, Ashley	Social Worker	BS Social Work/Psych		2	yes
Lahr, Jenna	Social Worker	BS Social Work/Psych		5	yes
Traynor, Molly	OT	BS Occupational Therapy		15	yes

There are also new state qualifications for paraprofessionals serving Title I schools. Paraprofessionals or instructional teacher aides assist classroom teachers, Title I reading teachers, and special education teachers. They must have a two-year college degree, or have completed two years of college study, or pass a rigorous test. Again, we have been given a timeline for working with individuals who do not meet the state requirements.

Paraprofessionals	Qualifications	Meets State Requirements
Diffely, Abby	BS Counseling/Psychology, Para Professional Cert	yes
Dora, Stephen	Assoc Degrees, Praxis Series Test	yes
Harvey, Rashel	Para Professional Cert	yes
Hoffman, Linda	BS Educ	yes
Marsh, Crystal	Developmental Disability Cert	yes
Rath, Kim	2 years college	yes

Schmaltz, Dustie	Para Professional Cert	yes
Surum Santos, Alyssa	BS Secondary Education BFA Fin Arts, Minor Art History	Yes
Ulvestad, Beth	Bachelor's Degree	yes
Wagner, Emma	2 years college, Para Professional Cert	yes
Walker, Casandra	Sub License- enrolled in VCSU- Elementary Ed	Yes
Ziemann, Mary	Assoc Applied Science Degrees	yes

If, at any time during the school year your child is taught by a teacher for four or more consecutive weeks (such as a long-term substitute teacher) who is not "highly qualified," you will receive timely notice from our school.

Please contact me anytime during the school year if you would like more information about teachers who are working with your children. We wish to keep our parents informed on the quality education we deliver. Sharing staff qualifications is an excellent way to show our commitment to students. Staff members at any school define the education environment. We are devoted to finding the best quality educators to work with your children to ensure that school is a place where they can succeed.

Sincerely,
Principal Narum