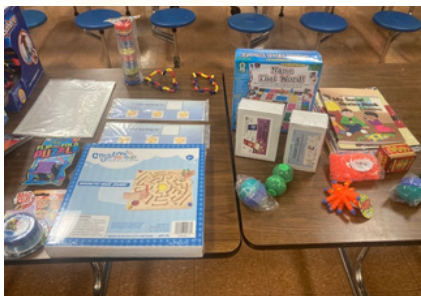
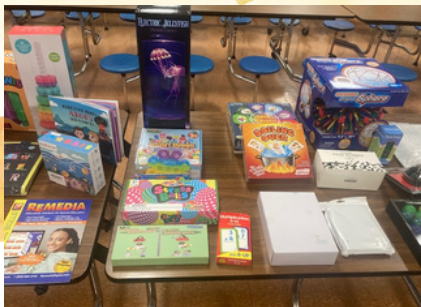


# SPECIAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Mrs. Britney Landers is with Every Piece Matters Autism Awareness Organization. Every year they donate to the special education program by giving \$1,000 worth of sensory items to schools/classrooms to help our teachers provide a wonderful learning experience for the kids who attend our schools. A special thank you to Mrs. Britney Landers and her family for donating supplies to the Colbert County Schools! We appreciate the kind gesture. The supplies will help assist our students in the classroom setting. Thank you Mrs. Landers for your continued assistance and support for our educators and students. We wish you and your family all the best!



# SPECIAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT



## LINKS FOR PROFESSIONAL GROWTH

Attendance Matters:

<https://www.attendanceworks.org/chronic-absence/addressing-chronic-absence/3-tiers-of-intervention/>

Graduate Programs: Advance Your Education.

[www.una.edu](http://www.una.edu)

[www.aamu.edu](http://www.aamu.edu)

[www.uwa.edu](http://www.uwa.edu)

[www.tnstate.edu](http://www.tnstate.edu)

[www.athens.edu](http://www.athens.edu)

[www.ua.edu](http://www.ua.edu)

[www.uah.edu](http://www.uah.edu)

[www.auburn.edu](http://www.auburn.edu)

## LINKS FOR PROFESSIONAL GROWTH

Join Professional Organizations:

<https://clasleaders.org/>

<https://myaea.org/>

<https://exceptionalchildren.org/>



# SPECIAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

## PACE

PACE 3rd and 4th grade classes will be going to McWane Science Center on Thursday, Dec. 1st. Students in all classes have planted fall raised bed gardens and are enjoying learning about gardening and seeing their plants grow! Our new facilities offer so many opportunities for our students that we haven't had in the past few years!

## THANK YOU

We would like to thank all stakeholders for helping, assisting, and believing in the students of Colbert County Schools. We appreciate what you do each day. This list of stakeholders are endless.


Bus Drivers, Custodians, Cafeteria Staff, Maintenance, Nurses, IT, Teachers, Superintendent, Directors, Secretaries, Bookkeepers, Principals, Para Professionals, Agencies, School Resource Officers, Board Members, Parents, Others, Others, and Others. We appreciate all that you do!

## GOALS

Be sure that you are servicing our students at the 10 level. You will start with high standards and end with high standards. When this occurs, you will get high quality results.

- 0. Hold High Standards
- 1. Communicate
- 2. Be Flexible
- 3. Accommodate
- 4. Patience
- 5. Be Consistent
- 6. Be Proactive
- 7. Tell your story.
- 8. Motivate.
- 9. Help.
- 10. Hold High Standards

Dr. Fred Abernathy






# SPECIAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

## IMPLEMENTING INSTRUCTION

Effective teaching combines the essence of good classroom management, organization, effective planning, and the teacher's personal characteristics. The classroom presentation of the material to the students and provision of experiences for the students to make authentic connections to the material are vital. The effective teacher facilitates the classroom like a symphony conductor who brings out the best performance from each musician to make a beautiful sound. In the case of the classroom, each student is achieving instructional goals in a positive classroom environment that is supportive, challenging, and nurturing of those goals. The best lesson plan is of little use if the classroom management component is lacking or the teacher lacks rapport with the students. Implementing instruction is like opening night at the theater where all the behind-the-scenes work is hidden and only the magic is seen by the audience. Effective teachers seem to achieve classroom magic effortlessly. The trained observer, on the other hand, is likely to feel great empathy and appreciation for the carefully orchestrated art of teaching.

### Positive Qualities

- Uses student questions to guide the lesson
  - Uses pre-assessments to guide instruction
  - Develops elements of an effective lesson
  - Uses established routines to capture more class time
  - Incorporates higher-order thinking strategies
  - Uses a variety of activities and strategies to engage students
  - Monitors student engagement in all activities and strategies
  - Has high numbers of students actively engaged in the class continuously
  - Adjusts the delivery and pacing of the lesson in response to student cues
  - Effectively uses the entire classroom (e.g., teacher movement throughout the room)
  - Student-centered classroom rather than teacher-centered classroom
  - Provides feedback (verbal, nonverbal, and written)
  - Designs and bases assignments on objectives
  - Assists students in planning for homework assignments
- 





# SPECIAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

## QUALITIES OF EFFECTIVE TEACHERS

### Positive Qualities

- Assumes ownership for the classroom and the students' success
- Uses personal experiences as examples in teaching
- Understands feelings of students
- Communicates clearly
- Admits to mistakes and corrects them immediately
- Thinks about and reflects on practice
- Displays a sense of humor
- Dresses appropriately for the position
- Maintains confidential trust and respect
- Is structured, yet flexible and spontaneous
- Is responsive to situations and students' needs
- Enjoys teaching and expects students to enjoy learning
- Looks for the win-win solution in conflict situations
- Listens attentively to student questions and comments.
- Responds to students with respect, even in difficult situations
- Communicates high expectations consistently
- Conducts one-on-one conversations with students
- Treats students equally and fairly
- Has positive dialogue and interactions with students outside the classroom
- Invests time with single students or small groups of students outside the classroom
- Maintains a professional manner at all times
- Addresses students by name
- Speaks in an appropriate tone and volume
- Works actively with students





# STAFF HIGHLIGHTS

## PAMELA DUNCAN - HES

I graduated from Deshler High School and attended NWSCC. I have been a Para-Professional for 19 years. I am married with 3 sons and I enjoy spending time with my family, traveling, and working in the community where I live.

## AMY POOVEY - LES

I graduated from Auburn University & have been teaching for 24 years. I have 3 children (Will - senior, Sarah - sophomore, Laura - 8th grade). I am from Dothan, AL & moved to Florence in 2001. I am a member at St. James Methodist in Florence and enjoy hiking, camping, bowling, watching sports, & cooking.

## MICHAEL DALRYMPLE - LES

I graduated from Deshler High School in 2001. I am working on my Bachelor's Degree in History at the University of North Alabama & will graduate in Spring 2024. I plan on studying for a Master's Degree in Education. I have been married to my high school sweetheart, Katie, for 16 years. We have three children: Nora (13 & attends CHHS), Oliver (4 & in CAPS at LES), and Teddy (2 & in daycare). I like watching college football (ROLL TIDE), baseball (GO BRAVES), reading, watching movies, & playing with my kids. I love Disney, Pixar, & Star Wars movies and have a huge trivia knowledge of them. I am a huge Elvis Presley fan and if you get in my truck the radio is almost always on Elvis Radio. I love rollercoasters, any kind of thrill ride, & our family spends a lot of time at Dollywood in Pigeon Forge.





# STAFF HIGHLIGHTS

## CHRIS JOHNSON - LES

I graduated from Colbert County High School in 2010 & am currently studying Elementary Ed at the University of West Alabama. I have been a Para Professional since February 2022 & I love to coach football & basketball & spend time with my family. I am married to Marissa and we have two kids, Nyla and Deiondre'. A motto I live by is God first, God bless.

## CHRISTY HENSON - CHES

I have an Associate's Degree and have been a Para Professional for 4 years. I am married to Zac & we have been married for 24 years. We have 3 wonderful children. Our daughter Zoe is a freshman at Calhoun Community College, where she is a part of the XC team. Our boys, Abe & Eli are both 11th graders at Colbert Heights High School. I enjoy spending time with my family camping, boating, & kayaking together.

## DEANNA HALLMAN - LES

This is my 4th year as a Para Professional. I enjoy traveling, reading, and anything outdoors. I have 3 children Kaden (23), Kane (17), Lexi (14).

## ASHLEY OLSON - LES

This is my 3rd year with Colbert County Schools & I am a Para Professional in the CAPS program. I have a Bachelor of Science in Sociology & Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice. I have been married to Jeff for 21 years & we have 3 children- Braeden (20), Maddie (17), and Asher (9). I enjoy reading, traveling, & spending time with my family.



# STAFF HIGHLIGHTS

## MEAGAN RUMBLE - CHES

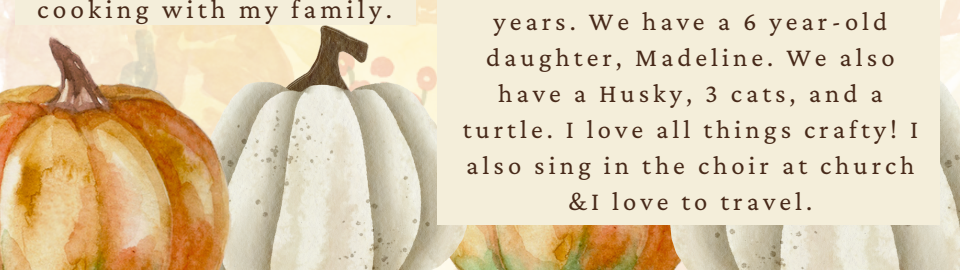
This is my 9th year teaching. I graduated from Belgreen High School in 2008. I have an Associates in Child Development from Northwest Shoals in 2010 & a Bachelors in Collaborative Education in 2012 from Athens State University. I have a son who is the light of my life & we have a puppy named Gus. We have a huge, supportive family that we love spending time with. enjoy spending time with my son & watching him play sports, reading, shopping, watching Alabama football & cooking with my family.

## VERLISCIA BANKHEAD - LES

I have been a Para Professional for four years. I like doing DIY projects and watching my favorite tv shows. I am a Muscle Shoals high school graduate. I have one daughter who is a senior this year.

## KELLI WALKER - LES

This is lucky # 13 of teaching for me! I have a Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education (2010), Master's degrees in Special Education (2013), & Instructional Leadership (2022), all from UNA. Roar Lions! I have been married to Matthew for 11 years. We have a 6 year-old daughter, Madeline. We also have a Husky, 3 cats, and a turtle. I love all things crafty! I also sing in the choir at church & I love to travel.







# STAFF HIGHLIGHTS

## SUSAN HALEY - CHES

This is my 30th year of teaching! I have a Bachelors degree: Social Work; Master's degree + 30 hours: Elementary Education/ Special Education. I love spending time with my family and pups :) I have been married for 31 years with 2 children, four dogs, and one guinea pig ;)

## JODI VANDIVER - CHES

This is my first year at CHES and my 6th year as a Paraprofessional. My husband Ricky & I have been married 15 years & we have two sons Weston(12) & Eli (9). We have two labradors, Doc & Millie. I enjoy iced coffee, the beach, baseball, & spending time with my family. Fun Fact: I am actually a certified dental assistant. Go Blazers!

## MALLORY ROBINSON - LES

I have been a Para Professional for 5 years and I am currently enrolled at NWSCC for Early Childhood. I enjoy painting and playing with my cricut. I have 2 Godsons, Jayden and Kayden Croom.





# STAFF HIGHLIGHTS

## DANA RATLIFF - CHES


I have been a Para Professional for 3 years. I graduated from the University of Alabama - Bachelor of Science in Athletic Training & Athens State University - Bachelor of Science in Physical Education k-12 with Adaptive PE. I'm married to Jonathan & we have 3 children- Rebekah, Eli, Isaiah. I enjoy music, sports, & crafting. We have 2 dogs (Charlie Mae & Bo), & 1 cat (Toby Tobias).

## SANDRA ELOM - LES

I have been blessed to work as a para at LES in the LEAP program for 19 years. I graduated from Muscle Shoals High School in 1977. I have been married to my husband for 45 years and we have 2 children and 3 grandchildren. Reading is my favorite hobby and I love spending time with my family.

## MELISSA GREEN - LES

I have been teaching the LEAP (Special Needs) class at Leighton Elementary for 27 years. I am a graduate of Colbert Heights High School and The University of North Alabama where I earned my undergraduate and graduate degrees in special education. In my free time I enjoy reading, listening to true crime podcasts, and spending time outdoors. I have been married to Mike for 28 years. Together we have one daughter, Makenzie who is 22 years old and a dog, Simon, who is 14.





# STAFF HIGHLIGHTS

## LYNSEY MYHAN - LES

I am the Pre-K 3&4 year old special education teacher. I spent 3 years as a Para & this is my 4th year of teaching pre-K SpEd. I enjoy family time, decorating for parties & events, spin class/Barre, & my side business-Lifted Balloon Company. I graduated from Decatur High School in 2011. I graduated with PK-12 special education degree in 2015 from Freed-Hardeman University. I am married to Will Myhan. He is a youth minister at Highland Park Church of Christ. We have a four year old daughter named Emmie.



LYNSEY  
MYHAN

## REBEKAH BURLESON - LES

I have been a Para Professional for 3 years & I work in the CAPS program. I am married to Brandon & we have twins (Lily & Logan). I love to camp, fish, read, & spend time with my family.





# STAFF HIGHLIGHTS

## DIANE MATLOCK - LES

I have an Associate in Early Childhood & a Certificate in Child Development. I have been teaching for 22 years and I am currently a Para Professional in the CAPS program. I am married to Craig & we have 4 children & 2 grandchildren. I love reading and spending time with my family.

## MELANIE BEHEL- LES

I have been a nurse for 30 years, Healthcare Administrator for 1, & I've been at LES for 3 years. I am married to Mark & we have a son (Micah), a daughter (Haley), & 3 grandchildren (Landon, Gage, & Lily. I like to spend my time spoiling my grandkids!



# HAVE A SAFE AND HAPPY HALLOWEEN