

Welcome, new staff members

As of Aug. 27, 2018

Kristin Carson
Transportation Department, Bus Driver

Betsy Dunkel
Early Childhood
Early On Service Provider

Melissa McAuliff
Early Childhood
Early Childhood Teacher at Taylor School

McAuliff is originally from Rogers City; she moved to the Petoskey area shortly after graduating from CMU in 2002 with a Bachelor's Degree in Education and a triple minor in Child Development, Math and Language Arts. She received her Masters in Education through Marygrove College in 2007.

"I am passionate about early childhood education and have always dreamed about teaching Preschool and Kindergarten. I have fulfilled one dream by teaching Kindergarten for the past 15 years at Alanson Elementary and loved every minute of it. I feel beyond lucky to be able to pursue my next dream of teaching Preschool," she said. "Having the opportunity to watch children grow and learn is one of the most rewarding parts of working with young children."

She and her husband, Jeremy, wed in October 2017 and McAuliff has a step-daughter, Claire. They enjoy outdoors activities and most importantly being with family.

Deb Sydow (current staff member, new position)
Early Childhood
Early Childhood Teacher at Boyne City

Erin Humphreys
Special Education
Teacher Consultant for Visually Impaired

John Powers
Special Education
Teacher Assistant for Boyne Falls Classrooms

Trista Keller
Special Education
Teacher Assistant, Alanson Elementary

Danna Heron
Special Education
Teacher Assistant, East Jordan MS/HS Classroom

Dorothy Swope (current staff member, new position)
Special Education
Teacher at Taylor School

Swope is not new to the ISD, but she is new to her role at Taylor School. She worked for Char-Em for the last three years as the ECSE teacher.

"I'm so excited to work with a new population of students so that I can share my knowledge of AAC, literacy, and math and to continue to make amazing progress this classroom has already made," she shared.

Swope lives in Petoskey and recently celebrated her one-year anniversary with husband Corey. They have two dogs, Lilly, a yellow lab, and Morgan, a German Shepard.

Sarah Weaver
Special Education
PBIS Coach (Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports)

Devin Wise
Special Education
Teacher at Taylor School

Please note: Full bio information was not available for all new staff, due to their recent hiring.

Please read about the new Business Office and Career Tech Ed staff on the next page ...

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Steven Weaver

Business Office

**Business Manger, Alanson and Pellston
Public Schools**

Weaver's background includes two years of experience in both business and personal accounting, and five years of experience auditing municipalities, non-profits and school districts.

"I was motivated to join the Char-Em team for the opportunity to work with local school districts and make a difference in helping children reach their potential," Weaver said.

Weaver enjoys golfing, traveling and watching the Detroit Lions in his free time.

Annie Hansen

Career and Technical Education

Career Prep Specialist

Hansen has been hired as a Career Prep Specialist. She is a Petoskey native and graduated from Petoskey High School and Saginaw Valley State University. Prior to coming to Char-Em ISD, she worked for Emmet County Probate Court with our shared Lakeview Academy, where she worked with all students.

Branden Wheeler

Business Office

**Business Manger, Charlevoix, Central Lake
and Beaver Island Public Schools**

Wheeler's professional career began with the Michigan Office of the Auditor General (OAG) in Lansing, where he worked with teams on financial, performance (compliance), and information technology audits.

"My most interesting audit with the OAG was the audit of the Bovine Tuberculosis Program," Wheeler noted.

Prior to the OAG, he had a variety of experiences, including an internship at Walt Disney World in Bell Services.

"I like the variety of the work and the opportunity to build relationships with local districts. More importantly, I believe this work will be very rewarding to me and the children we serve," Wheeler said, about his new role with Char-Em ISD.

Wheeler and his wife have been married for two years; the two met in college in an accounting club. They are hoping to start a family in the next few years. He enjoys mountain biking, boating, bowling, playing softball or kickball, and rooting for Detroit-based sports.