Art teacher Emily Leskee captured her young artists during their first days in class.

First days back: middle school BLT

The Building Leadership Team from Manitou Springs Middle School met the week before students started to develop their plans for a successful school year!

First days back: middle school artists

Art teacher Emily Leskee captured her young artists during their first days in class.

New Staff Corner

Lawrence Housley

Lawrence Housley is the newest member of the social studies team at Manitou Springs High School. His main interest, outside of teaching, is climbing. He climbs mountains, rocks, ice and anything else he can get his hands on. Lawrence is excited to be at Manitou because it’s such a close-knit community embedded in the heart of the mountains and hills. So far, he loves the energy of the staff, the building and the students.

Erin Huffman

Erin Huffman is excited to be teaching second grade at Manitou Springs Elementary School. This is her sixth year teaching, and she is thrilled to be part of the Mustang community. In Erin’s free time, she loves to hike with her dog and spend time with friends. She is ready for a great year!

Evan Johnson

Evan Johnson is thrilled to be teaching at Manitou! He graduated from North Dakota State University with a degree in secondary social studies education. Evan has worked in education for six years and at outdoor camps for eight summers. Seeing students get excited about major themes in world history and become curious about cultures from around the world is always great. In Evan’s spare time, he enjoys playing music and riding bikes.

Mikayla Norris

Mikayla Norris is honored to be serving her local community as the new special education teacher at Ute Pass Elementary. Mikayla lives in Cascade and has two children attending Ute Pass. She enjoys hiking, traveling and coffee. Mikayla is passionate about focusing on strengths and abilities — we ALL have them! This will be the beginning of her eighth school year as a teacher.

Ingrid Pérez

Ingrid Pérez was born and raised in Puerto Rico, she’s a native Spanish speaker, has been married for 13 years and is mom to 12-year-old Ariana. Ingrid is obsessed with llamas! Before coming to teach Spanish at MSHS, she worked as a paraprofessional for four and a half years in District 12. She fell in love with education and decided to apply for the ASPIRE alternative licensure program. Since her first language is Spanish, Ingrid decided to complete her teaching endorsement in world languages: Spanish!

Katie Weimer

Katie Weimer is beyond excited to join The Herd as the sixth-grade ELA teacher at Manitou Springs Middle School. Katie is a Manitou Mustang for life (Class of 2010) and has been teaching for five years. She loves to hike, make music with her family, play games (board and video), and paddle board in the summer/ski in the winter. Like any English teacher, Katie’s favorite thing to do is read a good book — so send her any recommendations!

Important date: No school Monday, Sept. 6, Labor Day.