

NEW

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School for one year and now has been picked up at the middle school.

Brown has been a special education teacher at Crittenden County Middle School for 7 years. He says developing students into leaders at the middle school level will come from removing personal barriers and developing confidence through hands-on experience and special guest speakers.

JAG is offered in 32 states and has been in Kentucky schools for 30 years.

The program's goal is to create tomorrow's leaders so they are successful in the workforce, military or post-secondary education.

Brown is excited to have the ability teach this class and the leadership skills students need to be successful.

The class will be offered five times each day to small groups of 10 or 11 students at CCMS.

"Part of learning to be a good leader is also learning how to be a good follower at times also," Brown said. "Sometimes you're going to be put in uncomfortable positions and we have to learn how to adapt to it."

Brown hopes to develop students' public speaking skills. Though it can be uncomfortable, Brown said that is part of the growth process.

Brown is being mentored by CCHS JAG instructor Emma Coleman.

Brown earned a bachelor's degree from Western Kentucky University in 2007 and a master's degree from Georgetown College in 2018. He began working in Crittenden County Schools in 2010 as an alternative school instructor and has most recently served as a special education teacher for fifth, sixth and seventh grads.

Victoria Orten

Not only is Victoria Orten new to Crittenden County Schools, she is new to Kentucky.

Within a week from getting married this summer, Orten and

her husband set off for Sturgis, where her father-in-law, Daniel Orten, is a pastor.

Orten will be teaching third-grade math.

At 31, her experience has been in special education and as a math resource teacher in Houston the last two years.

"I am very familiar with math and love teaching math, it's one of my favorite subjects," she said.

"I'm excited about having a class like this, because I love making connections with students and I'm excited to be able to do that."

As a special education teacher, she was with her students for shorter periods of the day, whereas in third-grade at CCES, she will be with the same students most of the day.

"I'm really excited about watching them grow as humans, not just in their academic skills."

She holds a bachelor's degree from Grand Canyon University and is certified to teach in Kentucky.

Jennifer Brown

A familiar face in the local medical community will be teaching part-time in the biology department at Crittenden County High School this year.

Jennifer Brown, APRN, will teach biomedical and allied health courses in the afternoons while continuing to practice in the nursing field.

Brown has been a nurse practitioner at Family Practice Clinic in Marion since June 2019.

"I was approached about a need for a biomedical instructor, and I want to expose students to the amazing opportunities the medical field can offer," Brown said. "My goal is to make a positive impact at the school and

help students develop skills that can provide financially for their families."

Brown is a graduate of Caldwell County High School and the University of Louisville. She earned a master's in nursing and completed the Family Nurse Practitioner program at the University of Kentucky in 2008.

Trace Adams

Trace Adams is picking up where he left off at the end of the 2024-25 school year as a social studies teacher in Crittenden County.

Adams is a 2021 graduate of Crittenden County High School and a 2025 graduate of Murray Sate University. He completed student teaching at Crittenden County Middle School under sixth grade social studies teacher Ben Thompson.

Adams will be teaching seventh grade social studies.

Adams is also an assistant baseball coach.

"I'm really excited to start my first year teaching at my hometown middle school," he said. "It feels great to come back and give back to the community that helped shape me."

"I'm looking forward to inspiring my students through learning history and life endeavors."

Elizabeth Fitzgerald

Crittenden County native Elizabeth Fitzgerald will split her day between the middle and high schools in what will be her first year in the school district.

The 2013 graduate will split her time between the two schools, teaching financial literacy at the high school and career exploration at the middle school.

"I like the curriculum I'll be teaching," she

said. "I like finance and I have had experience with several careers."

As a military wife for six years while living in South Carolina and Virginia with her husband Travis, she worked in several fields and worked at Farmers Bank in Marion for a year.

Fitzgerald has a bachelor's degree in finance from Murray State University.

Taylor and Bess Davis

The husband/wife duo of Taylor and Bess Davis are entering the Crittenden County School District this year, Taylor as a history teacher at Crittenden County High School and Bess as a fourth-grade math teacher.

Taylor most recently has been teaching history at Union County Middle School. He earned his bachelor's degree in history and a masters in education from Murray State University.

Likewise, Bess has a bachelor's from Murray, her degree in elementary education. She taught at Crittenden Elementary her first three years in education and the last two at Lyon County Elementary.

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