

August 31, 2018

Dear Parents and Families,

Welcome to the 2018-19 school year! I am looking forward to being your child's special education monitor again this year. I hope you and your family had a wonderful summer and had a chance to relax and recharge for this school year. I am entering my 24th year as a special education teacher, and the past 10 years have been at the secondary level. I love working with middle school students, as I believe they are the most important three years to help the students learn the skills they need to be successful in high school and beyond.



As you can see from my picture, my husband and three sons celebrated the recent departure of my oldest going off to Ithaca College in Upstate New York by enjoying a night out at one of our favorite places to dine (Hibachi). This starts a new chapter in my life with now only having two teenagers to look after! My middle son, Brian, is entering 11th grade. He will be starting at wide receiver for his high school football team (hence the bleach blond hair!). He will be busy this year with both school and sports. My youngest son, Kyle, is entering the high school as a freshman (no more middle schoolers). He too enjoys playing football and will also be a starting receiver for the freshman football team. I hope he does not get too lost on his first day of school!

Below are the special education staff that will be supporting your child this year:



Amy Reis
Speech and Language therapist



Stefanie Powers
Psychologist

We will meet regularly to ensure we are all working together to best support your child this year. Please do not hesitate to reach out directly to anyone working with your child.

This year, I will be after school for extra help sessions on Mondays until 4:00 and Tuesday's until 3:15. What I find makes a student most successful in school is when their parents and I work together as a team. I will be giving you updates throughout the year as to how your child is doing through emails and phone calls. If you have any questions or concerns about a particular class, the best person to reach out to is that classroom teacher directly. However, I will have direct contact with all your child's teachers on a daily basis, so if there is a question or concern you have regarding more than one class, about your child's special education services or supports, or about a specific situation your child is struggling with, please do not hesitate to email or call. I want to work with you in order to ensure that I can best provide the support he needs. I will get back to you within 24 hours of your email or phone call. You can reach me at lauren_showstead@greenwich.k12.ct.us or (203) 531-5700. I look forward to continuing to work with you and your child this year.

Warm Regards,
Lauren Showstead