

New Kinzie Staff 2017-18

Greetings Kinzie Families! My name is Elsa Diaz-Santiago and I am delighted to be part of this amazing school! This is my 20th year as an educator in the Chicago Public Schools. Over the course of my career, I have served students as a bilingual classroom teacher, administrator, but more importantly, as an advocate for the rights of all students to a high-quality education. I am passionate about language learning and the opportunities it affords to our students in a global society. As our school's English Learner Program Teacher, I strive to ensure that our students have the instructional supports needed to be successful academically and linguistically. I look forward to meeting our students' families and, together, watching our children grow into successful individuals!

Elsa Diaz-Santiago, English Learner Program Teacher

I have been a CPS educator for 18 years in a primary bilingual classroom. As I begin my 19th year as a World language Spanish teacher, I look forward to sharing my love for culture and language with Kinzie students. I am a daughter, wife and mother raised on the southwest side. My family loves to travel and I have a great passion for photography, history, and scrapbooking.

Candace Prado, K-8th World Language Spanish Teacher

My name is Brenna Robinson. I am from Omaha, Nebraska. I attended the University of Texas at Austin and majored in Deaf Education. After my studies at Texas, I moved to Chicago and began my second degree in American Sign Language Interpretation at Columbia College. I love spin classes, singing, traveling, anything chocolate, and decaf almond milk lattes!

Brenna Robinson, Interpreter



Hello, Kinzie community! My name is Kerrin Staskawicz and I am pleased to introduce myself to you as Kinzie's Resident Principal for the 2017-18 school year. I am entering my eighth year of my career in education after teaching middle school Writing and Social Studies in Irving Park and Humboldt Park, as well as working for the CPS Office of Language and Cultural Education supporting English learner programming for the schools in Network 1. Throughout this upcoming school year, I will be working and learning alongside Principal Caetta in order to better understand the critical role and important responsibilities of a school principal.

Originally I am from California, and in my free time, I love to go for walks, ride my bike, listen and dance to music, explore coffee shops around the city, cook, travel, go to the movies, and read. I have a deep passion for social justice and lifelong learning.

I look forward to partnering with the Kinzie students, staff and families throughout this school year and learning about the successes, areas of growth and unique context of this school community. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns you may have.

Kerrin Staskawicz, Resident Principal

