

## Staff Spotlights- October 2014

### Jennifer Callender



*Math Instructional Coach, grades 6-11*

**My History at BSCSD:** I have taught math for 17 years at the Middle School. This is my first year as an instructional coach.

**Where I live:** Rexford, in the town of Clifton Park

**My Pets:** I have one dog; a small golden retriever mix named Cracker Jack.

**Favorite Hobbies:** I enjoy quilting (which I learned from MS math teacher Sue Janes) as well as reading.

**Favorite memory from when I was in school:** When I was in second grade I moved to a new school. I loved my teacher and she made me feel so welcome. I really enjoyed how much she cared for all of her students. She inspired me to become a teacher!

**Favorite Song/Musician:** Green Day *Time of your Life*

**Favorite Book:** My Sister's Keeper by Jodi Picoult

**Favorite Movie:** Oceans Eleven

**Favorite TV Show:** Breaking Bad

**People might be surprised to know that I:** failed a scuba diving course. I struggled during the lessons in the pool. When it came time to do the deep water dive in Lake George, I panicked and could not do it.

**If money were no object I would:** Travel to every nook and cranny in the world!

### Alison Paley



*ELA/Literacy Instructional Coach, grades 6-11*

**My history at BSCSD:** 23 years as an English teacher

**Where I live:** Malta

**Favorite Hobbies:** Reading and Travel

**Favorite memory from when I was in school:** Mrs. Burke, my third grade teacher, read aloud *Tom Sawyer*. It was then I decided I wanted to become a teacher.

**What I like best about working at BSCSD:** Collaborating with my colleagues. This is a district of lifelong learners who constantly strive to improve and hone their craft. It's exciting work.

**Favorite Musician:** Billy Joel

**Favorite TV Show:** Big Bang Theory

**People would be surprised to know that I:** overcame my fear of heights and zip-lined this year.

**If money were no object I would:** Travel around the world.

## Courtney Perez



*ELA/Literacy Instructional Coach, grades K-2*

**My history at BSCSD:** 10 years as an elementary teacher

**Where I live:** Pattersonville

**My Pets:** Roxy (Doberman) and Sénor (Chihuahua)

**Favorite Hobbies:** dancing, reading, listening to music

**Favorite memory from when I was in school:** My favorite memory was being able to spend the day in my fourth grade teacher's "Luxury Lounge."

**What I like most about working at BSCSD:** I love being able to make a difference in children's lives.

**Ways I give back to my community:** I am on the vestry at my church. I also serve on my church's TLC committee, which

makes and delivers meals to individuals in need during difficult times.

**Favorite Musician:** Justin Timberlake

**Favorite Book:** Pride and Prejudice

**Favorite Movie:** The Wedding Singer

**People would be surprised to know that I:** worked at the Haunted Mansion in Walt Disney World.

**If money were no object I would:** spend months at a time at Disney World.

## Cailin O'Meara Rabideau



*Math Instructional Coach, grades K-2*

**My history with BSCSD:** This is my seventh year as an elementary teacher.

**Where I live:** Ballston Spa

**Favorite hobbies/pastimes:** I love playing lacrosse and field hockey. I also love watching all sports, but my favorites are ice hockey, football and baseball. GO YANKEES! Of course I also love shopping!

**Favorite memory from when I was in school:** As a child I hated my curly, super frizzy hair. But then I met my 5th grade teacher who had the exact same kind of hair. Then I loved my hair!

**Ways I give back to the community:** During the summer months I help run the Ballston Spa summer lunch program in the community. This program provides lunches every weekday throughout the summer to children in Ballston Spa who need it. I also help run the community service committee at Milton Terrace North and teach Sunday school at our church.

**What I like most about working at BSCSD:** Working with such wonderful people every day! I have made so many amazing and lifelong friends. I have also been afforded and am so thankful

for the many wonderful experiences and opportunities at BSCSD to grow professionally as a teacher.

**Favorite Musician:** Zac Brown Band

**Favorite TV Show:** The Voice, American Idol and everything HGTV

**People would be surprised to know that I:** have freckles on exactly one half of my body. Yes, it's an exact straight line! My left side is covered with freckles and none on the right@

**If money were no object I would:** build a beach house in Maine and open my own boutique. If money were no object *and I wasn't afraid of flying* I would start an organization and travel to different countries to help build new schools and provide educational supplies.

### Christine Santandrea



*ELA/Literacy Instructional Coach, grades 3-5*

**History with BSCSD:** 10 years as an elementary teacher.

**Where I live:** Malta

**My Pets:** Lucy, the sweetest beagle!

**Favorite Pastimes:** I am a huge Boston Red Sox fan! I also love spending time at Sacandaga Lake.

**Favorite memory from when I was in school:** My mom being "room mother" and volunteering at classroom events. I also loved field day!

**Ways I give back to the community:** My family and I support the Alzheimer's Association, a cause close to our hearts.

**What I like most about working at BSCSD:** Working with colleagues who put kids first!

**Favorite Book:** Charlotte's Web

**Favorite TV show:** I Love Lucy

**People would be surprised to know that I:** am petrified of birds!

**If money were no object I would:** travel the world!

### Amy Sheft



*Math Instructional Coach, grades 3-5*

**History with BSCSD:** This is my 16th year as a teacher!

**Where I live:** Porters Corners

**My Pets:** We have a Russian Tortoise named Ivan.

**Favorite hobbies/pastimes:** Spinning and yoga. I also love to watch all kinds of sports.

**Favorite memory from when I was in school:** I got to be Chiquita Banana during a chorus concert in elementary school. This began my lifelong dream of wanting to be a backup dancer.

**What I like most about working at BSCSD:** The students! I love that every day is different and enjoy the innocent, light-hearted spirit that children bring to the school environment.

**Favorite TV show:** Anything reality TV on Bravo.

**People would be surprised to know that I:** was close to joining the air force after high school. I wanted to be a fighter pilot.

**If money were no object I would:** own a beach house directly on the ocean!