

## **Stacey Lytle, High School Director and English Teacher**

She is an award-winning author, speaker, facilitator, educator, coach, and mentor. Stacey is the Legacy Leadership Academy Director; she delights in teaching youth and is a passionate English Instructor. Stacey has founded several schools and inspired many with her vision for education. Stacey happily home-schooled their seven children and has been active in aiding in the education of her grandchildren as well. It's not uncommon to see her rocking out on back country roads-screaming to sudden stops, jumping out, camera in hand, snapping shots of wildflowers along the road, breathtaking sunsets, or a dilapidated barn. Stacey's favorite things in life include her sweet husband, their amazing kids and darling grandbabies, and any and all things nature!

## **Karen McKenzie, Math Teacher**

She's all about helping kids love math and have a working relationship with it! Before diving into the classroom, she spent seven years as a homeschool mom, nurturing a love for learning in her own kids. Teaching math is more than a job for her; it's a chance to ignite curiosity and boost confidence in her students. Algebra is her favorite, but she's comfortable teaching any math through Calculus. She studied at BYU-Idaho, Boise State, and finally earned her math degree from Indiana University - East. Since then, she's been dedicated to creating a supportive and engaging environment where her students feel empowered to tackle math challenges head-on. She will be teaching and mentoring 8th-12th grade students.

When she's not explaining math problems, you'll find her enjoying her other passions. She's absolutely crazy about flowers and find their colors and diversity beautiful. She loves a good audio book to captivate her while doing the dishes or treating herself to some delicious chocolate.

## **Tim Dunn, Science Teacher**

He pairs two of his favorite things - science and teaching youth. He is a former middle school science teacher with a bio-engineering background. He is most recently a successful business owner, entrepreneur, and early-morning Seminary teacher.

## **Lexy Perry, History**

She graduated from Utah State University with a degree in elementary education while playing collegiate softball. After graduating she made the decision to stay home with her four kids. Once they were of school age she started to consider homeschooling as an option. She joined a TJED co-op and was trained in a few LEMI classes including: Sword and Hero, Key of Liberty, and Georgics. She homeschooled for 9 years before being prompted that they needed to go a different route. This will be her second year teaching at Legacy. She has a passion for teaching and learning. Her favorite moments are being with the youth and seeing those "Ah-Ha" moments. Her all time favorite subject is history. She loves learning about people and events and why they came to pass and how they influenced or affected the world. In her free time she loves to read, swim, hike, fish, travel, and coach softball.

### **Stephanie Hoyt, 8th Grade Instructor**

She grew up in Nyssa, Oregon and attended BYU where she graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing. There, she met her husband and they now have four children. She enrolled two of her children in Legacy Academy in 2021, and it only took a few months before she felt compelled to join the amazing Legacy team and enroll the rest of her children. Learning and teaching are two of her lifelong passions and she is blessed to be able to share her love of the Gospel, reading, writing, and history with the middle school students at Legacy Academy.

### **Laura Wheeler, 7th Grade Instructor**

She graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in Education from Weber State University in 2008, and she and her husband welcomed their first baby later that year. She decided to focus on her family and has loved learning alongside her four kids through the years. Traveling is a passion for their family, as well as spending lots of time relaxing together and exploring the outdoors. Since graduating she's spent countless hours working with the youth of her ward, volunteering, and substituting in her kids' classrooms. She is so excited to have her own classroom at Legacy Academy this year teaching seventh grade History, Language Arts, and Math. She believes all learning should serve a purpose and she strives to find the why in everything she teaches. She feels incredibly blessed to be able to teach in an environment where the Spirit can guide her students, as well as her as their teacher.

### **Rachel Price, Middle School Movement**

Rachel grew up near Detroit, Michigan, where she danced as a member of local dance teams. She graduated from Ricks College with her Associates degree with dance emphasis in 2001, and from University of Idaho, earning her Bachelor's degree in Dance Education in 2004. She has been sharing all styles of dance in Idaho and Utah for over 20 years, including owning a studio in Twin Falls. Most recently, she was an Assistant Director at CADA dance studio in Meridian. Currently, she is the head dance coach at Meridian High School. Rachel is passionate about teaching love of movement and is thrilled to combine this with her love for the gospel to share with the students at Legacy!

### **Teresa Rudd, Christ Centered Art Instructor**

Her and her husband, Jerott, has raised five wonderful children, who have now all entered adulthood. The recent addition of our grandchild has truly become the crown jewel of her life. As a mother, she took on the role of teaching life skills and nurturing a love for creativity in her children. She has illustrated three children's books and authored one of them. She had the privilege of serving as an art teacher at Garnet Preparatory Academy. During her time there, she fell in love with teaching art. It was immensely gratifying to witness the growth of each student, both in their artistic abilities and in their self-confidence. Her goal as an art teacher is to inspire individuals to find greater peace in their lives through art as they invite the Savior into their creative space.

### **Kindra Howard, Psychology**

If someone asked her favorite age to work with, the answer would hands down be, with the teenagers. Her passion to teach comes from the reward of seeing that teen find their worth, recognize their gifts, and blossom into a leader who has confidence to be bold in this world. She wanted the opportunity to expand her abilities to guide them, thus she became a certified life coach and loves it. It has given her the opportunity to mentor the students in a whole new way and it is joyful. It has also allowed her to start her own business as a Life Coach. Teaching full time at Legacy for 8 years was a time of personal growth and now the growth continues with the opportunity to coach and mentor. When she's not teaching or coaching, her time is spent with her husband and four children. Her family would say she's the happiest when she's in the beauty of the mountains, enjoying excessive speed in the UTV or cruising around the lake on a paddle board. She would say it's when she's

laughing and being her “crazy” self with them, which likely would include the excessive speed.

## **Denisse Jensen, Spanish Instructor**

Her passion for Spanish grammar began in the third grade in her grammar class in Lima, Perú. She loved learning every part of the sentence and the meaning of words and using them in the right context. When she was 12 years old she and her family moved to Miami Beach, Florida and she had to learn a new language. It was challenging and exciting. Along with learning a new language, she also became immersed in a new culture. When she was 18, she moved to Rexburg, Idaho to attend Brigham Young University-Idaho. She comes from a long line of teachers and educators so becoming a teacher felt natural. Shortly upon graduating with a Bachelor’s degree in Spanish Education and Political Science, she was hired as an adjunct faculty to teach Spanish at BYU-Idaho. Her work at BYU-Idaho was one of the most fulfilling times of her life. Her work there not only involved teaching the subjunctive, which she is passionate about and adjective agreement and all of those fun grammatical concepts, but she was also able to promote cultural sensitivity and awareness and breaking down stereotypes. She is married to her favorite human, Scott. They have four amazing children. Her family loves to go camping, hiking and boating. She also loves to listen to podcasts, books, photography, ballroom dancing with her husband, gardening and traveling. She took a 15-year hiatus from teaching to raise her children and be a full-time mom. Motherhood is her greatest calling in life! Her children are her greatest teachers. With the amazing experiences and lessons she has gathered from motherhood she is now ready to go back to teaching. She knows from personal experience, how meaningful the influence good adults can have in our children’s lives. She looks forward to not only teaching Spanish and Latin American culture but also creating meaningful connections with the students at Legacy Academy.

## **Hannah Thompson, Theater/Improv Instructor**

She is so excited to join the Legacy team! A native of Idaho, Hannah, her husband and her two kids spent about 10 years moving around the country and finally made their way back to Idaho two years ago. She has spent her life performing on stage and teaching theater in various capacities. Her family owns and operates the Playmill Theatre in West Yellowstone, Montana. This is where her love of theatre was born! She can’t wait to share her love of the performing arts with the students at Legacy Academy!

## **Janette Beverley, Music/Choir Instructor**

She has been a music teacher for over 28 years and has performed around the world as a concert pianist. Her original composition albums can be found on Amazon music, Spotify and anywhere you can find music. She has directed multiple choirs, show choirs, and soloist groups. She was trained as a concert pianist at the University of Utah and at Speech Level Singing for vocal pedagogy. She has accompanied many notable performers including Jenny Oaks Baker and David Archuleta. This is her second year teaching music at Legacy and she loves all of the students and faculty and is excited to be back.

## **Lucinda Hyatt, Photography Instructor**

She believes in Brigham Young's encouragement "adorn your habitations, make gardens, orchards, and vineyards, and render the earth so pleasant that when you look upon your labors you may do so with pleasure, and that angels may delight to come and visit your beautiful locations ... Your work is to beautify the face of the earth, until it shall become like the Garden of Eden." Lucinda's passions are gardening, landscaping and flower farming. She has a successful business called The Potted Porch. Her interests are in helping her three boys in entrepreneurial pursuits, graphic design, photography, event planning, finding vintage decor and beautifying everything! Lucinda has directed a homeschool co-op for the past seven years and loved teaching children and learning alongside her three boys.

## **April Smith, Martial Arts/Self Defense Instructor**

She was born in California and moved to northern Idaho where she spent most of her life. Both of her boys were raised there before moving to the Treasure Valley to start a family business. Her passion is sharing her love of the creative arts which she has done in various capacities for over 20 years. From teaching elementary school music and art, show choir, and piano, to owning a martial arts and dance studio and operating a school from her home during Covid. April is happiest when she's teaching and working with kids!