STAFF SPOTLIGHTS





Audrey Cooper, Site Supervisor

This is Audrey's 5th school year at College Wood Elementary and her 7th school year in the ESE program. Audrey attended Cornerstone University in Grand Rapids, Michigan and graduated in 2013. In her free time Audrey enjoys running, hiking, reading, gardening, and playing with her two dogs, Jules & Ellie.

Fun Fact: When Audrey was 8 years old, she got lost in Seattle and had a missing person's report filed.



Allison Wray, Assistant Site Supervisor

Allison has been working with ESE since September of 2017. She was the Head Counselor at Mohawk Trails for one year. Allison started at College Wood ESE January of 2019. She loves building relationships with students and parents and is very excited for the 2019-2020 school year!

Fun Fact: Allison has met 2 cast members from the TV show 'Parks and Recreation.'



Jarred Crossley, Head Counselor

This is Jarred's first year working for ESE. He worked at Taco Bell for the first year of his professional life, moving on to a call center to gain more work experience. During this job he realized he enjoyed helping others learn. He believes you can learn something new every day and that is why he enjoys working with kids. They are naturally curious and force you to think about things differently.

Fun Fact: Jarred is a huge video nerd. He took film classes in high school and college!

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Emily Timmons, Kid Counselor

Ms. Timmons has worked for ESE as a Kid Counselor at College Wood for two years. She has lived in Carmel her whole life and graduated from Carmel High School in 2015. She is in her last year of college at IUPUI studying management. She was in the Carmel Guard all throughout high school and has taught the Carmel JV color guard for the past five years.

Fun Fact: Ms. Timmons was in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade in high school.



Susan Heckaman, Kid Counselor

Mrs. Heckaman is looking forward to her fifth year at College Wood. She enjoys being an encourager and mom figure for the kids that attend the ESE program. Although a 'Buckeye' by birth, Mrs. Heckaman is a Purdue graduate and has a degree in wildlife Science. She and her husband enjoy living life with their dog, Ella, and son, William, who is a fourth grader at Orchard Park Elementary.

Fun Fact: Mrs. Heckaman once ate a live worm.



Meghan Lacy, Kid Counselor

Ms. Lacy began working for ESE as a Kid Counselor four years ago. She is a junior at Butler University studying Elementary Education. She is super excited to be back at College Wood and to see the kids. She is also excited to learn more and experience more working with kids! Ms. Lacy spent last semester in Sweden.

Fun Fact: Ms. Lacy has slept in an ice hotel in Sweden.

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Brooke Buttars, Kid Counselor

Ms. Buttars is excited for her second year as a Kid Counselor at College Wood. She has been babysitter and a nanny since she was 12. She is very excited to come back and work while she attends college. Ms. Buttars always enjoys the imaginative mind each child brings to ESE. She hopes to one day become a therapist.

Fun Fact: Ms. Buttars learned to tie her shoes when she was 12 years old.



Mary Pedrick, Kid Counselor

The will be Ms. Pedrick's second year working at College Wood as a Kid Counselor. She has worked with children for many years. Ms. Pedrick's favorite thing about working here is that the kids are funny and every day is different.

Fun Fact: Ms. Pedrick once ate an armadillidiidae!



Alexandra Wertz, Kid Counselor

Ms. Wertz began working for ESE as a Kid Counselor at College Wood during the '17-'18 school year. She is going to college to study supply chain management. Her first job was at a vet clinic helping take care of dogs! She loves working with kids because they unexpectedly teach her a lot of valuable lessons and are sweet!

Fun Fact: Ms. Wertz has spent over 400 hours volunteering at animal shelters and is very good at art.

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Adam Williams, Kid Counselor

This will be Mr. William's fourth year with Carmel Clay Parks and Recreation. He graduated from New Palestine High School in 2015 and is going into his senior year at IUPUI. He is studying Public Safety and Emergency Management. He has worked with children for around 8 years and has worked at the Springhill overnight camp.

Fun Fact: Mr. Williams jumps out of airplanes and helicopters for the Indiana National Guard.



Valliei Chandrakumar, Kid Counselor

This will be Ms. Chandrakumar's first year working for ESE as a Kid Counselor at College Wood. She loves working with kids and in her free time, loves playing with her new puppy, Pluto. She is a junior at Carmel High School and loves playing tennis and reading books.

Fun Fact: Ms. Chandrakumar was born in Toronto, Canada!



Nicole Carman, Kid Counselor

This will be Ms. Carman's sixth year working as a Kid Counselor at College Wood. She is excited to meet all the new students and reconnect with returning students. She is a senior at Purdue University, studying Elementary Education. She will student teaching at College Wood starting in January.

Fun Fact: Ms. Carman participated in the Disney College Program last fall and worked in Walt Disney World!

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Xyrese Breland, Kid Counselor

Mr. Breland began working for ESE as a Kid Counselor three years ago. He loves working with kids because it helps him build a strong trust with kids to help inspire their future goals. He is studying criminal justice to become a police officer. Mr. Breland has seven siblings.

Fun Fact: Mr. Breland loves super hero movies but is still scared of watching horror films.



Sarah McConkey, Kid Counselor

Sarah was born and raised in Westfield, Indiana, where she attended a private grade school and went to a public high school. She worked at Busby Eye Care before going to college at Ball State University. Sarah got her degree in Wildlife Biology and spent her summers working at Camp Rancho Framasa. She discovered her love of working with kids and is excited to be a part of their future!

Fun Fact: Llamas are Sarah's favorite animal! She showed them for 10 years



Lisa Ferri, Kid Counselor

Lisa has taught in IPS since 1986 off and on. She likes teaching kids different types of sports because she believes sports build character. Lisa also wants to teach kids at an early age that fitness is something that should last a lifetime.

Fun Fact: Lisa LOVES sports!

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Claire Hatton, Kid Counselor

This is Claire's 2nd school year working at College Wood. She enjoys working with the kids and meeting new ones each year. Her major is speech pathology and she attends the University of Alabama.

Fun Fact: Claire studied abroad in Austria over the summer.



Alana Lorts, Kid Counselor

This is Alana's 3rd school year at College Wood! She loves working here because she enjoy the constant activity and seeing the kids have fun. She is a sophomore at Purdue University and is studying Special Education!

Fun Fact: Alana went to Ukraine this summer!



Jessie Schrader, Kid Counselor

Jessie is a senior studying social work at St. Louis University. She loves working with kids from kindergarteners to high schoolers. She worked at an overnight camp in Georgia for high schoolers 2 summers ago and this is her second year at College Wood. She loves working with kids because every day is different and she loves playing and goofing around with the kids.

Fun Fact: Jessie has been to 10 countries!

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