



MEET OUR TEACHERS

Principal



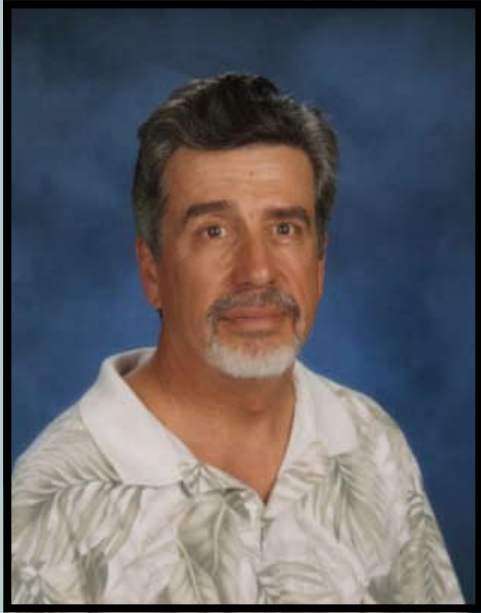
Vicki Carr

Principal Vicki Carr was one of the founding members of the charter planning team that formed Pacific Coast Charter School (PCCS) in 1998. She received her B.A. and M.A. in Elementary Education from Arizona State University. Her studies for her administrative credential were done through Santa Clara University (Tier 1) and National University (Tier 2). After teaching Grades 1-3 for seven years in Phoenix, Arizona, Vicki taught Grade 1 in Pajaro. She became involved in high school independent study in 1983. In 1989, she helped set up a K-8 program that later became known as Pajaro Family Education. She is the past president of Region V of the California Consortium for Independent Study (CCIS) and currently serves on the CCIS Board as their Charter School liaison. Her educational focus is centered on students' individual needs and helping them to explore their passions and interests. She is involved in the following professional organizations: Association of California School Administrators (ACSA), APlus+/Personalized Learning, the California Charter Schools Association (CCSA), and serves annually as a visiting team member for the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC).



Rebecca Haifley

I have been a teacher for almost 25 years — most of the time here at PCCS. I feel lucky to be able to teach what I love, like Environmental Science for high school students, and writing for Kindergarten through 8th grade. I enjoy working with different grade levels. In addition to teaching, I enjoy traveling. I have visited many different countries and look forward to discovering many more. Through my extensive travels in Mexico, Central and South America I have learned to speak Spanish.



Greg Kropf

- I teach high school art classes, some science labs, and I am the supervising teacher for thirty-some students. That means I teach Drawing, Painting, Ceramics, Oceanography, and Health/Human Biology.
- I work best with motivated, self-directed learners of all ages.
- In my spare time. I enjoy my family, artistic pursuits, music, gardening, and surfing (not necessarily in that order).



Martha Miller
“Muffie”

I began my teaching career in Boston, Massachusetts and Baltimore, Maryland. Teaching K-8 home school students at PCCS, without doubt, has been my favorite teaching job of all! Although I truly enjoy teaching all subjects, my passion is teaching thematic literature/writing/geography classes to the K-5 students. Another thing I love about teaching here is having the time to work one-on-one with my students and their families. I am also very fortunate to be the advisor for our quarterly K-8 Literary magazine, The Scoop. My very favorite activity at PCCS is our annual Authors’ Tea and Authors’ Fair, held each spring. Our student authored books always reflect our unique and creative kids.

In addition to teaching, I love spending time with my husband and adult children, who have both recently moved back to the San Francisco Bay area. I also enjoy traveling, cooking, gardening, and reading in my spare hours.



Tim O'Connell

I have been an independent studies teacher here at PCCS for five years. Prior to that I taught English at Aptos High School for 27 years. One of the best parts of my job is helping students develop writing skills that they can use in college and in their careers. I also enjoy introducing my students to good literature. I feel fortunate to have the opportunity to work closely with students and their parents as they discover the rewards of being a self-directed learner.



**Elisabeth
Rettenwender**

Hi, you can call me Ms. Be! I have been a teacher for about 15 years, working all over California. Originally I grew up in Germany until I was 12, when we moved to the USA. Later I lived in Barcelona, Spain and in Paris, France. My life of traveling has helped me learn to speak French, Spanish and German. I teach World History and US History because I always am interested in why humans are the way they are. I also teach a drama class because it is so much fun being loud and silly sometimes.



**Kristin Phillips-
Matson**

Greetings! I am very excited to be teaching at PCCS where we embrace the “personalized learning” concept. There are two guiding principles that inform my approach to teaching: (1) all students are worthwhile people; and (2) everyone is capable of learning and change. In my new Speech class, I look forward to working with students to sharpen their critical thinking skills in a supportive environment. In Drama, students will explore oral interpretation in individual and group settings. CAHSEE Success will assist students in building their academic skills through studentspecific instruction; P.E. will focus on golf and tennis first semester. I am also the school counselor; if you have a problem beyond that which your supervising teacher can help you with, please make an appointment to see me. Outside of school, I enjoy spending time outdoors with my family; pondering scientific mysteries, such as dark matter; and listening to punk music, among many other styles.



Heidi Fonseca

Heidi was born in Guatemala City, Guatemala. She has lived in Watsonville since 1982. Heidi loves Math, Technology, Classical Ballet, and to learn new things, like Tating. She has two cats. Heidi is very happy to be part of the PCCS family, and is looking forward to collaborate with students, teacherparents, and colleagues.