

Meet the Launch STEAM+ Team



Art – Ms. Nelson

- DMUSD Art Specialist for 20 years
- Teacher of the Year for Del Mar Hills (2008-2009) and Carmel Del Mar (2014-2015)
- Holds a B.A. of Arts (Major Fine Art, Minor Spanish), Master of Arts in Teaching, Museum Education, Credentials in Single Subject in Art; Professional Clear Multiple Subject; CLAD, Participation in the Colonial Williamsburg Fellowship Program, been a Robert Rauschenberg /LAB School of Washington D.C. Honoree, and attended Harvard's Project Zero Summer Institute and the National Gallery of Art Teacher Institute.
- Learn more about Ms. Nelson at <https://sites.google.com/delmarschools.org/mrsnelsonlaunchartspecialist/home>



Music – Ms. Neilson

- Music and classroom teacher for 30 years
- DMUSD Instrumental and Choral Festival Coordinator, Administrative Designee, Student Council Advisor, DMUSD teacher representative for the San Diego Arts Network, Strategic Planning/Action Teams, School Site Council, Principal's Advisory Council, FAME, CMEA, and MENC
- Holds a Bachelor's Degree in Music Education and Master's Degree in Educational Leadership, credentials in Single Subject-Music, Multiple Subject-Gen Ed Classroom, Administrative Services-Preliminary and certification in GATE and Orff/Schulwerk
- Learn more about Ms. Neilson at <https://sites.google.com/delmarschools.org/ms-neilson/home>



Music – Ms. Mathews

- Plays five instruments: piano, guitar, ukulele, clarinet, and most recently, the drums
- Holds a B.A. in English with a minor in Music, Single Subject English Credential with ELA, Supplementary Authorization: Music (K-12) and Leading Edge Certification (in progress)
- Favorite subject within music is music theory. Ms. Mathews loves listening to songs, taking them apart, and figuring out what makes them sound so good. She also has perfect pitch, and enjoys incorporating ear training into lessons with all students K-6
- Learn more about Ms. Mathews at <https://sites.google.com/delmarschools.org/music-with-ms-mathews/home>



The Del Mar Schools Education Foundation (DMSEF) is proud to be celebrating **20 years** helping to fund incredible STEAM+ specialists like the ones in our Launch program this year. To learn more about DMSEF, or to make a tax-deductible contribution to support STEAM+, please visit www.dmsef.org.

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Performing Arts – Ms. Leeder

- 19 years teaching in DMUSD and 21 years teaching total.
- Master's Degree with a focus in Gifted & Talented Education
- Students will be tackling mock trials, math challenges and the Global Issues Problem Solving Program in Enrichment this year.
- My goal this year is to inspire my students to find the positive in the world around us, create the desire for new knowledge, learn the value of collaboration and teamwork, and trust that they can tackle problems regardless of how challenging they may seem initially.
- Learn more about Ms. Leeder at <https://sites.google.com/delmarschools.org/ariellaleeder/home>



PE – Coach Phillip

- DMUSD PE teacher for 16 years
- Holds Multiple Subject Credential (CSUSM) and P.E. credential (SDSU)
- Bilingual in Spanish, Certified 1st Responder and Black Belt in Tae Kwon Do
- Coach Phillip Physical Education Philosophy is to improve and promote physical well-being, to provide examples for lifetime health habits, and to bring joy into physical activities for all students
- Learn more about Mr. Phillip at <https://sites.google.com/delmarschools.org/coach-phillip/home>



PE – Ms. Gilson

- Graduate of Sacramento State University where she ran Track & Field as a Division 1 sprinter
- Holds a Bachelor's Degree in Physical Education, Coaching and Conditioning, graduated with the honor of Summa Cum Laude and received teaching credential at SDSU
- Ms. Gilson has passion for teaching and helping young individuals foster a healthy long-lasting relationship with exercise, stems from her experience working with a variety of age groups and sports programs over the course of her career.
- Learn more about Ms. Gilson at <https://sites.google.com/delmarschools.org/cecilygilson-coach/home>



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PE – Mr. Cunha

- DMUSD 5th grade and STEAM+ Technology and Del Mar teacher for 15 years
- Holds a M.A. Education, B.S. Kinesiology (SDSU), Credentials in Administrative Services, Multiple Subjects (K-6), Single Subject: PE, Health and Computer Concepts and Application
- Mr. Cunha believes that each child is a unique and he enjoys helping students meet their fullest potential by providing an environment that is safe, supports risk-taking, and invites a sharing of ideas.
- Learn more about Mr. Cunha at <https://sites.google.com/delmarschools.org/mr-cunha/home>



Science – Mr. Miller

- DMUSD Science Specialist for 9 years
- Taught Middle School and High School levels
- Holds a BA from Indiana University and a Master's from National Louis University
- Bilingual in Spanish
- Learn more about Mr. Miller at <https://sites.google.com/delmarschools.org/mr-miller/home>



Science – Ms. Krishnan

- DMUSD Science Specialist for 18 years
- Holds a Bachelor's degree in Biology and a postgraduate degree in Microbiology
- Taught High School Science in Malaysia
- Worked at UCSD as a Research Assistant for 3 years
- Learn more about Ms. Krishnan at <https://sites.google.com/delmarschools.org/mrs-krishnan/home>



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