

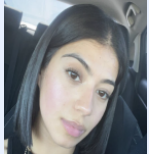


















MWA Employee Announcements - Last Updated 08/20/2023







Name	Photo	Position	Start/Job Change Date	Division	Status	Bio
Dr. Dela ("Dr. Dee") Morris		Director of Compliance, Data, and Assessment	08/21/2023	Central Office	New	Dr. Dela Morris (she/her/Dr. Dee), a San Francisco native and alumna of Morgan State University and Brandman University, joins Making Waves Academy as the Director of Compliance, Data, and Assessment as the lead administrator responsible for managing and supporting compliance-related processes and deliverables, overseeing effective implementation and use of school Data Systems for Making Waves Academy (MWA). Before MWA, Dr. Dee provided support in administration, training, operations, change management, data analysis, metrics, and the implementation of diversity and inclusion initiatives. In her spare time, she enjoys spending time with her family and dog (Apollo Creed), exploring new restaurants as an amateur food blogger, and volunteering with several community-based organizations.
Marisol Navarro	N/A	Attendance Specialist	08/28/2023	School Wide	Transfer	We are excited that Ms. Marisol Navarro will move into a new role as the Attendance Specialist at MWA for the 2023-2024 school year. Ms. Navarro has been with MWA since October 2017, and we look forward to her continued contributions in a new capacity.
Cristina Lopez		SPED Instructional Aide	08/14/2023	School Wide	New	Cristina Lopez (She/Her) is Bay Area born and raised. Cristina graduated from Contra Costa Community College and the University of California Davis, obtaining her AA degree in La Raza Studies and her Bachelor's degree, double majoring in Chicax Studies and Gender, Women & Sexuality. Cristina has worked in education as a SPED paraprofessional and is excited to start her journey with Making Waves Academy. Cristina is most passionate about being able to make a positive impact on the community and being able to help everyone reach their goals. Cristina enjoys spending her time taking her dog on walks and sightseeing.
Robert Crain		Campus Supervisor	08/07/2023	School Wide	New	Robert Crain is MWA's new campus supervisor with 7+ years of experience helping students and staff with daily tasks and activities focused on campus supervision. Robert uses that experience to make sure students, staff, and fellow co-workers are safe and secure at all times. His motivation, when coming to Making Waves, is making sure he continues that core value and everyone is safe and secure at all times.
Prathana Karki		School Nurse	08/07/2023	School Wide	New	Prathana Karki (she/her) graduated from West Coast University with a Bachelor's of Science in Nursing in 2023. This is her first nursing job but has prior experiences in nursing in various settings during nursing school. She loved her pediatrics rotation the most. She is very excited that this new journey of hers connects her three passions: nursing, children and education.
Diana Cuellar	N/A	Expanded Learning Instructor	07/31/2023	Middle School	Promotion	Diana Cuellar joined MWA in August 2019 and was recently promoted to Expanded Learning Instructor. Under the supervision of the Coordinator of Extended Day and Enrichment Programs, they will create and facilitate an academically rigorous, engaging, and culturally relevant curriculum for the Marlin Academy Program this year.
Karman Sikand	N/A	Expanded Learning Tutor (PT)	07/31/2023	Middle School	Promotion	Karman Sikand joined MWA in January 2020 and was recently promoted to Expanded Learning Tutor. Under the supervision of the Coordinator of Extended Day and Enrichment Programs, they will create and facilitate an academically rigorous, engaging, and culturally relevant curriculum for the Marlin Academy Program this year.




LaWanda Smith Muhammad	N/A	Lead Teacher	07/31/2023	Upper School	Promotion	LaWanda Muhammad has been with Making Waves Academy since August 2020. We are excited to welcome her to her new role as Lead Math Teacher.
Breonna Edison		English Teacher	07/31/2023	Middle School	Promotion	Breonna Edison first joined Making Waves Academy as an On-Site Substitute Teacher in September 2021. She returned for the 2022-2023 school year as a Teacher Resident participating in the Alder Graduation School of Education credentialing program. We continue to be grateful that she is back with us again for the 2023-24 school year as a ELA Teacher for the Middle School. Welcome back!
Crystal Lee	N/A	Expanded Learning Tutor (PT)	07/31/2023	Middle School	Promotion	Crystal Lee joined MWA in March 2022 and was recently promoted to Expanded Learning Tutor. Under the supervision of the Coordinator of Extended Day and Enrichment Programs, they will create and facilitate an academically rigorous, engaging, and culturally relevant curriculum for the Marlin Academy Program this year.
Camila Ceja		English Teacher	07/31/2023	Upper School	Promotion	Camila Ceja (she/her/hers) has been with MWA since July, 2022 as a Teacher Resident and is now an ELA Teacher for the Upper School. We are excited to welcome her back for this new school year! She is proud to be born and raised in the Bay Area, continuing to learn from and teach her community. Camila is happy to be entering the Teacher Residency program for social studies as she has recently graduated from UC Berkeley with a double major in Ethnic Studies and Comparative Literature. She has always led her life inspired by community and action, as she has worked to see art and education for change. Camila has volunteered in schools in OUSD & SFUSD and has worked as a program coordinator for 826 Valencia in the Mission. Camila is excited to be a part of her Richmond community as an educator!
Jazlyn Godinez		Expanded Learning Tutor (PT)	07/31/2023	Middle School	Promotion	Jazlyn Godinez joined MWA in January 2023 and was recently promoted to Expanded Learning Tutor. Under the supervision of the Coordinator of Extended Day and Enrichment Programs, they will create and facilitate an academically rigorous, engaging, and culturally relevant curriculum for the Marlin Academy Program this year.
Sarah Ross		Humanities Teacher	07/31/2023	Middle School	New	Sarah Ross was born in Michigan, but spent most of her life in Oklahoma. Miss Ross has a Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education and a Master's degree in International Education Administration. After teaching middle school English in the Oklahoma City area for 14 years, Miss Ross decided to go on an adventure and move abroad. She taught middle school English at a private school in Bangkok, Thailand, and worked as the Curriculum Coordinator at a private school in Dubai, UAE, but now has felt the pull to return to the US. Miss Ross is very excited to be relocating to the great state of California and joining the Making Waves Academy team. She looks forward to exploring the Bay Area.
Aniceto Leon, Jr.		SPED Resource Teacher Intern	07/26/2023	School Wide	Transfer	Aniceto Leon joined Making Waves Academy in August 2021 as a SPED Aide. We are excited to welcome him to his new role as a SPED Teacher Intern pursuing his teaching credential.
Stephen Jones		Spanish Teacher Intern	07/26/2023	Upper School	Transfer	Stephen Jones joined Making Waves Academy as an On-Site Substitute Teacher in October 2021. We are excited to welcome him to his new role as a Spanish Teacher Intern pursuing his teaching credential.

Luis Calvo		Spanish Teacher Intern	07/26/2023	Upper School	Transfer	Luis Calvo joined Making Waves Academy as an On-Site Substitute Teacher in October 2022. We are excited to welcome him to his new role as a Spanish Teacher Intern pursuing his teaching credential.
Mohan "Mo" Namboodiri		Math Teacher Intern	07/26/2023	Upper School	New	Mohan Namboodiri is new to the teaching profession having spent 35 years in research and Analytics roles at SAS software, Williams-Sonoma and Gap Inc. Mohan will be teaching Algebra 1 and 2. He is looking forward to learning and growing with Making Waves! For 35 years, Mohan has been partner and husband to the fabulous Ms. Carla Williams also joining MWA this year. They have two wonderful sons, an orange tabby who is the real boss of the operation and a 10 month old Doberman puppy who is too big to ignore.
Fatima Carrasco		Teacher Resident	07/25/2023	School Wide	Transfer	Fatima Carrasco joined Making Waves Academy in October 2021. We are excited to welcome her to her new role as a Teacher Resident for the 2023-2024 school year while pursuing her credential and Masters at Alder Graduate School of Education.
Jasmine Hernandez		Teacher Resident	07/25/2023	School Wide	Transfer	Jasmine Hernandez joined Making Waves Academy in January 2022. We are excited to welcome her to her new role as a Teacher Resident for the 2023-2024 school year while pursuing her credential and Masters at Alder Graduate School of Education.
Jovan Fulton-Wilson		Dean of Student Discipline	07/25/2023	School Wide	New	Jovan is a proud native of Richmond, California. He comes to Making Waves Academy as an alumnus of Langston University, where he obtained his Bachelor of Arts in Psychology. Before joining MWA, he worked at Kipp Bayview Academy as the Director of the Extended Learning Programs, providing after-school enrichments & programs to all students. Jovan also has experience teaching English as a foreign language overseas in Beijing, China. Jovan is most passionate about the well-being of our youth & young adults, providing a safe & healthy learning environment for all. Jovan truly enjoys spending time with his family & traveling the world every chance he gets.
Jamaya Walker, LMSW		Lead Social Worker	07/25/2023	School Wide	New	Jamaya Walker, LMSW (she/her), is a Bay Area native, 2x author, and proud 12th Waver. She is a Prairie View A&M University and University of Houston alumna. Before making a full circle home, she lived in Houston, Texas, and served as a school counselor with a background in working in a behavioral hospital. Jamaya is passionate about helping people transform their pain into power. She enjoys spending time with her baby, cooking, and watching true crime shows.
Edeson Beredo		Compliance Manager	07/25/2023	Central Office	New	Edeson Xyviel Beredo (he/him) has sixteen years of experience as an educator, school leader, materials developer, and school events specialist for learners from different levels - middle school to college. He finished his undergraduate degree with a Bachelor of Secondary Education at the Philippine Normal University – Manila and his Master of Arts in Education from the De La Salle University - Manila. He is currently finishing his Master of Science in Educational Leadership at the California State University - East Bay. He moved to the Bay Area from the Philippines in 2016, and worked at West Contra Costa Unified School District for seven years where he served as an education specialist, IEP coach, and department chair. He is excited to transition to the role of compliance manager with MWA to support the school's compliance efforts.

Dr. Mathew Woessner		Math & Science Teacher	07/25/2023	Middle School	New	Dr. Woessner is so excited to be joining the Making Waves family. He comes by way of New Orleans, Louisiana where he was a teacher for the past several years, teaching both 4th and 5th grade math and science. Dr. Woessner recently earned his Ph.D. in Criminology from Florida State University and is excited to share those experiences and knowledge in the classroom. New to the Bay Area, he is looking forward to all the exploration to come. He is passionate about people: family, friends, and students. Getting the opportunity to grow from these interactions is exciting and enriching. He also enjoys traveling to new places, Mardi Gras - in New Orleans obviously, and Harry Potter.
Silvia Escalera		Math & Science Teacher	07/25/2023	Middle School	New	Silvia Escalera (she/hers/her) has always lived in the bay area. She is an alumna of UC Berkeley as well as University of the Pacific. She's been in education for 5 years teaching at the Elementary School level and is very excited to get to know all of the staff at MWA and make great connections. Any free time she has she spends with her partner, their 3 Dogs, a rabbit, gardening as well as playing the guitar
Nickolas Pino	N/A	Art Teacher Intern	07/25/2023	Middle School	New	Nick Pino (He/Him) feels, as an instructor, his focus has been passionately in creative arts and teaching kids in subjects such as film, creative writing, theater, digital media, art and illustrative storytelling for the past twelve years. He values a student's individual missions to try to see their ideas and projects to the end, and the essential learning that results from those experiences. He sees Making Waves Academy as an opportunity to help students find a guiding light through the school's college prep priorities. Alongside teaching, his work as a self-publisher and freelance illustrator for the past ten years has given him the insight and experience that he feels is overlooked in art's education. I highly value fostering student's creative passions as well as directing their individual voices towards a future that's practical and relevant towards the broad world of the arts.
Jose Leon		SPED Resource Teacher Intern	07/25/2023	School Wide	New	Jose Leon (he/him/his) has been living in the Bay Area since 2016 while working in the field of education. Starting off as a paraprofessional in San Francisco, Jose became enthusiastic in helping students achieve academic and behavioral milestones. Jose Leon holds degrees from the University of San Francisco and Arizona State University.
Eva Arias Ramirez	N/A	Teacher Resident	07/25/2023	School Wide	Transfer	Eva Arias Ramirez (she/hers/her) is a long-time Richmond resident. She comes to Making Waves Academy as a alumna of the University of California, Berkeley, where she obtained her Bachelor's in Cognitive Science. Arias is a first generation college graduate who is passionate about the advancement of minority students in STEM fields. Arias enjoys spending her time listening to music, or reading a good book.
Annika Sabella		History Teacher	07/25/2023	Middle School	New	Annika Sabella (she/her/hers) was born in Germany and grew up in Connecticut. She comes to Making Waves Academy as an alumna of Louisiana State University and the University of Southern California, where she obtained her Master of Arts in Teaching. Prior to joining MWA, she worked in international sales and marketing in the Bay Area. As a lifelong student, Annika is passionate about education as well as creating a culturally relevant, inclusive, and welcoming classroom environment that challenges and supports all students. Annika enjoys spending her free time backpacking, traveling, and rock climbing with her husband, and doing herding, agility, conformation, and dock-diving with her two dogs.

Carla Williams-Namboodiri		History Teacher	07/25/2023	Upper School	New	Carla Williams-Namboodiri has taught history and English in the Bay Area since 2006 and was a Bay Area Writing Project Fellow in 2010 at UC-Berkeley. Her interests include travel, sports, family life and politics. She recently published Blues Highway, a work of historical fiction centered on the lives of Pullman Porters migrating from the South to Chicago. Her latest passions include walking the Albany bulb with her husband Mohan and her son Neelu's doberman puppy. Besides driving her son Vijay to soccer, she likes baking, Zumba and swimming.
Kathia Arias Ramirez	N/A	Teacher Resident	07/25/2023	School Wide	New	Kathia Arias Ramirez (she/hers/her) is a Mexican immigrant who has spent the largest portion of her life in the Bay Area. She graduated from UC Santa Cruz in 2020, with a Bachelor's in Spanish Studies and an Education Associate's degree. She has worked as a tutor as often as she could since she was able to get a work permit through DACA as a teen and has always loved the educational field. Kathia loves the MWA mission statement and is excited to be a part of a school which creates opportunities for communities of color. Kathia spends all her free time with her siblings, her spouse and their dog, watching movies and hiking.
Laurel Marinho		Science Teacher	07/25/2023	Middle School	New	Laurel Marinho (she/her/hers) is an optimistic first-year teacher. She is from New Hampshire, where she attended Dartmouth College, majoring in biology and minoring in education. After graduating, she enrolled in the Marshall Teacher Residency, spending one year student teaching and earning her teaching credential. Laurel is passionate about helping others develop life skills like sewing, doing taxes, and changing a tire. In her free time, she enjoys sewing and crocheting clothes for herself, her husband, and her cat, Grigio.
Emily Anderson		SPED Resource Teacher Intern	07/25/2023	School Wide	New	Emily Anderson is an enthusiastic educator thrilled to join Making Waves Academy as a Special Education teacher. With a B.S. in Business Administration from San Francisco State University and a background in administrative, marketing support, and content publishing roles, Emily brings a diverse skill set to her teaching practice. She is passionate about creating engaging lesson plans and fostering creativity and excitement in her students' academic progress. Prior to joining MWA, Emily gained valuable experience as a substitute instructor and served as the Head Varsity Soccer Coach at Mount Diablo High School. Outside the classroom, Emily finds joy in coaching soccer, participating in her book club called, ""Minds with Spines"", and cherishes quality time spent with her husband and 10-year-old son.
Daniel Fonseca		Spanish Teacher Intern	07/25/2023	Upper School	New	Daniel Fonseca is originally from Pomona, CA but has been living in Yolo County volunteering and giving back to the community. He is ecstatic to be moving to the Bay Area and excited to become a member of the community. Daniel holds a Bachelor's degree in Psychology and Spanish and Master's degree in Spanish Literature from University of California, Davis. Before joining Making Waves Academy, he taught Spanish at the University of California, Davis and then transitioned to helping youth who have had encounters with the law and community members through both restorative justice and mediation practices. Daniel is happy to be returning to the field of education and hopes to bring new ideas and perspectives to MWA. Daniel enjoys reading all genres of books on his free time and visiting local coffee shops.
Annie Hanson		Math & Science Teacher Intern/ TFA	07/25/2023	Middle School	New	Annie Hanson (she/her) is a proud Northern California native. She grew up in Sacramento until entering college at Azusa Pacific University in Southern California where she graduated in the class of 2023 with a B.A. in English. She is eagerly entering Making Waves Academy as a corps member for Teach For America and is currently enrolled in the grad program at Loyola Marymount University School of Education. In her free time, Annie enjoys visiting California national parks, bouldering, and listening to live music. She is also a die-hard Golden State Warriors fan.

Josefina Ruelas		SPED Instructional Aide	07/25/2023	School Wide	New	Josefina Ruelas (she/her/hers) is a Making Waves graduate from the 16th wave. She is an alumna from the University of California, Riverside. During the summers, Josefina spends her time working at the Aim High Summer Program. She is passionate about connecting with students and cultivating a positive learning environment and growth mindset.
Meghan Lorenzo Marquez		Math Teacher	07/24/2023	Upper School	Promotion	Meghan Lorenzo is a Making Waves alumna that returned to the MWA community as an On-Site Substitute Teacher in September 2021. She entered the Alder School as a Teacher Resident in 2022-23 school year. We are excited to welcome Meghan back for the 2023-2024 school year as a Math Teacher for the Upper School.
Jazmelina Salas-Ledesma		History Teacher	07/24/2023	Upper School	Promotion	Jazmelina Salas-Ledesma is a Making Waves Alumna from Wave 14. She went on to graduate from San Francisco State University with a Bachelor's in Economics. Aspiring to give back to her community, she returned to MWA as an On-Site Substitute Teacher in March 2022. She came back in the 2022-2023 school year as a Teacher Resident participating in the Alder Graduation School of Education credentialing program. We continue to be grateful that she is back another year, this time for the 2023-24 school year as a History Teacher for the Upper School. Welcome back!
Michael Gomez		Science Teacher	07/24/2023	Upper School	Promotion	Michael Gomez has been with MWA since July, 2022 as a Teacher Resident and is now a Science Teacher for the Upper School. We are excited to welcome him back for this new school year! He is originally from the Inland Empire in Southern California but has been living in the Bay Area for the past 7 years. He graduated from Dominican University of California with a Biology degree as well as played on their D2 Men's soccer team. Michael has been a part of the Canal Alliance organization since moving to the Bay. Here he works with immigrant families and students in the Canal district of San Rafael, a community that will always fill his heart and life with joy. There he worked with their after-school program case managing, and teaching first generation students. When he is not with students Michael love to play and coach soccer as well as spend time outdoors, ideally both of those activities shared with many friends.
Mark Aduviso	N/A	Attendance Specialist	07/17/2023	School Wide	Promotion	Mark Advusio joined MWA as the Assistant to the Registrar in October 2011, and was recently promoted to Attendance Specialist. We look forward to his continued contributions in a new capacity.
Hugo Valdovinos Lemus		MS Student Activities Coordinator	07/10/2023	Middle School	New	Hugo Valdovinos (he/him) graduated from UC Santa Barbara with a degree in History of Public Policy. Prior to joining MWA, Hugo worked with The Fund for Santa Barbara, a nonprofit community foundation that supports organizations working for social, economic, environmental, and political change in Santa Barbara County. Through his work in Santa Barbara, Hugo oversaw and coordinated youth and internship programs dedicated to helping students understand the importance of community engagement and teaching them ways of creating sustainable change. Hugo enjoys traveling, reading history books, and staying active through bicycling and swimming.
Anthony Mesquita		Campus Supervisor	07/10/2023	School Wide	New	Anthony Mesquita is a Bay Area native from Contra Costa County. He comes to Making Waves as a former Field Supervisor of the Public Safety Department at the California College of the Arts in San Francisco where he enjoyed interacting within the students, staff, faculty and the community alike. Anthony also has an extensive safety and security background where he has also enjoyed assisting and ensuring the safety of others. Anthony enjoys spending time with his wife and three children in his free time; whether that be playing video games with his two son's, watching Disney movies with his daughter, or simply spending time with his family as a whole.

Sonja Jackson		Dean of Students, Restorative Practice Focus	07/03/2023	School Wide	Rehire	Sonja Jackson has been with Making Waves Academy since October 2022. Through the recent restructuring of the Dean of Students team, we are excited to welcome her back to serve in the new Dean of Students, Restorative Practices role this year.
Kelly L. Crosby		Director of New Teacher Development and Support	07/01/2023	School Wide	Promotion	<p>Going into her 9th year at MWA, Kelly is honored with the opportunity to work with teachers who are enrolled in the Residency, Intern, and TIP programs. Kelly is a first-generation Vietnamese immigrant. Her background is in Art, Education, and Cultural Studies. Kelly came to MWA as a substitute teacher. She has since contributed to our community as a History teacher, Grade Level Lead, School Site Council Secretary, WASC Lead, and Gate and Makerspace coordinator.</p> <p><i>This year, non-credentialed teachers and residents can expect ongoing support from Kelly, whose aim is to focus on ensuring the development and retention of new teachers at MWA. Kelly will conduct regular check-ins, classroom observations, partner with the Principal and HR to monitor credential progress, and much more!</i></p>
Dr. Tameka Jackson		Principal	07/01/2023	School Wide	New	<p>We are excited to welcome Dr. Tameka Jackson to MWA for the 2023-2024 school year.</p> <p>Click here for Dr. Jackson's bio.</p>