

January Monthly Mustang Staff



Donna Johnson is a Kindergarten teacher at Gordon Elementary School. Mrs. Johnson graduated from Chadron State College, with a Bachelor's of Science in Elementary Education degree. She went on to receive a Master's of Science degree as a Reading Specialist from the University of Nebraska at Kearney.

Mrs. Johnson has been married to her husband Rod for 38 years. They have three children Krystal, Kohl and Kaleigh. They also enjoy nine grandchildren! Mrs. Johnson loves reading, spending time with her family, and her job!

When asked what is something she is passionate about, Mrs. Johnson answered, "I feel very passionate about providing all children a secure loving classroom where they feel valued, loved, and have the desire to seek knowledge." In regards to her strength as a teacher, Mrs. Johnson replied, "I feel my strength as a teacher is my positive attitude and my love and expectations for each student."

According to Mrs. Johnson a successful school year is, "A successful school year to me is when all of my students feel they are part of a community where they make a difference in people's lives and all students have made progress in their learning and the ability to feel empathy."

Mrs. Johnson mentioned that, "I have many good memories, but one of my favorites is being in the country school holiday programs."

When asked what was one thing she wanted his students to take away from their time in her classroom she answered, "I want them to remember that kindergarten was a place where learning is fun and the feeling of being in a caring community where everyone felt they were important."

If she had total control of Gordon-Rushville Public Schools one suggestion for improvement Mrs. Johnson had was, "To promote the importance of small group teaching for students of all ages."

Finally when Mrs. Johnson was asked, If you could have dinner with one person, living or deceased, who would that be, and what is one question you would ask them? She replied, "President Donald Trump, I would ask him how are you going to provide the much needed funds for improving the public-education system?"



Joel Burbach is the Head of Maintenance for the Gordon-Rushville Middle School and Rushville Elementary buildings. Mr. Burbach is a graduate of Rushville High School. He is married to Pam and they have two adult children and three grandchildren. When asked what was something Mr. Burbach was passionate about he replied, “The Nebraska Cornhuskers ! and the Chicago Cubs!!” Mr. Burbach stated that he felt his strength in his current position was that “ I really enjoy my work and the people I work with.” When it comes to school memories, Mr. Burbach mentioned that “ It is the friendships I have built over the years that are still good today.” When asked what was one thing he wanted students to remember about him, Mr. Burbach replied, “That I was a good person.” In regards to the best thing about his job Mr. Burbach stated, “The people I work with and are around everyday are the BEST people!” If Mr. Burbach had total control of Gordon-Rushville Schools he said, “ I would continue to make all of our facilities as safe and secure as possible for all involved. I think we are doing a great job now, but everyday brings changes.” Finally when Mr. Burbach was asked, If you could have dinner with one person, living or deceased, who would that be, and what is one question you would ask them? He answered, “ My dad. Maybe not famous to anyone but me, but I would like to spend one more day together.”



Jenny Tullis is a paraprofessional at Rushville Elementary. Mrs. Tullis is a graduate of Roosevelt College in the Philippines where she received a Bachelor’s degree in Computer Science. Mrs. Tullis lives in Rushville with her husband Allan D. Tullis. They have four children. Her oldest child is John M. Tullis he is 21 years old, and stationed with the Army and in Tacoma Washington. John recently got married on November 11, 2017. His wife, Kendra Tullis is from Washington. John and Kendra are expecting a baby and Mrs. Tullis is very excited to be a grandma. Mrs. Tullis and her husband have three other children they are Allan M. Tullis, a 6th grader, and twins Alice and James M. Tullis who are 5th graders at Rushville Elementary. Mrs. Tullis’ hobbies are painting, baking, and cross-stitching.

When asked what was something Mrs. Tullis was passionate about she replied, “ I am passionate about spending time with my family and good friends.” Mr. Tullis stated that she felt her strength as a paraprofessional was her patience. When it comes to school memories, Mrs. Tullis mentioned that “ My favorite memory would be when I help the students with their projects and artwork.” When asked what was one thing she wanted students to remember about her, Mrs. Tullis replied, “I want the students to remember me as a kind and caring person.” In regards to the best thing about her job Mrs. Tullis stated, “The best thing about my job is all my co-workers who are good to me !” Finally when Mrs. Tullis was asked, If you could have dinner with one person, living or deceased, who would that be, and what is one question you would ask them? She answered, “ My parents in the Philippines. I haven’t seen them for seven years, but I’m so glad we have the ability to Facetime!”



George Meng is the 7-12 Instrumental Music teacher for Gordon-Rushville Middle School and High School. In addition to his time in the classroom Mr. Meng can be found directing the and accompanying various instrumental ensembles and small groups. Mr. Meng completed his Bachelor’s degree in Music Education at Chadron State College and went on to attain a Master’s degree in Administration from CSC as well. When asked what was something he is passionate about, Mr. Meng replied, “Music Education.

Mr. Meng described a successful school year as, “Students realizing their potential.”

When asked what was one thing he wanted his students to take away from their time in his classroom, he replied, “Enrichment of life through music.”

If Mr. Meng had total control of Gordon-Rushville Schools he would build a track. “We have the best track team without a track.”

Finally when Mr. Meng was asked, If you could have dinner with one person, living or deceased, who would that be, and what is one question you would ask them? He answered, “Pythagoras. How’d you figure this out?”