

## November Monthly Mustang Staff



Kim Forsberg is the Resource Education teacher at Rushville Elementary School. Mrs. Forsberg is a graduate of Menno Public School in Menno, South Dakota and attended Chadron State College where she obtained a bachelor's degree in Education Early Childhood Unified (Birth-Grade 3). She went back to Chadron State College and received her K-12 Special Education degree in 2016. Mrs. Forsberg resides in Chadron with her husband Aaron. They have a daughter, Blakesley (2 years old) and a son, Kallen (1 year old). They also have permanent custody over their nephew Peyton (7 years old).

Mrs. Forsberg's hobbies include spending time with her family, traveling, gardening, and photography.

When asked what is something she is passionate about, Mrs Forsberg answered, "I am passionate about spending time with my family and friends."

In regards to her strength as a teacher, Mrs. Forsberg replied, "I feel my strength as a teacher is patience."

According to Mrs. Forsberg a successful school is , "When I see progress in all my students academically and in their everyday living skills."

Mrs. Forsberg mentioned that, "My favorite school memory would be when I was in third grade and we would have free reading time. We would get to relax on bean bags and have snacks as we quietly got to read a book of our choosing"

When asked what was one thing she wanted her students to take away from their time in her classroom she answered, "I would like my students to know that I am there, first and foremost for them to be successful. I would like them to know that everything I did for them was with their best interest in mind."

If she had total control of Gordon-Rushville Public Schools one suggestion for improvement Mrs. Forsberg had was, "Since we are seeing more kids with Autism in the world, I would like to see our school district invest in sensory rooms. These rooms would help students with Autism calm their bodies throughout the day and give them sensory input. By having these rooms it would help the students participate in the least restrictive environment."

Finally when Mrs. Forsberg 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, "My grandpa, Walt. I wouldn't ask him anything specific. I would just like to talk to him again."



Jana Goranson is the Guidance Counselor at Gordon-Rushville High School and Gordon Elementary School. Mrs. Goranson is a graduate of Gordon High School and attended the University of Nebraska-Lincoln where she obtained a bachelor's degree in Music Education. Mrs. Goranson also holds a master's degree from Chadron State College in School Counseling.

Mrs. Goranson is married to Joe, who ranches. They have a daughter that works in Human Resources and Event Planning in Omaha and a son and daughter-in-law who both are teachers in Scottsbluff. Mrs. Goranson's hobbies include music, arts and crafts

and cooking.

When asked about something she is passionate about, Mrs. Goranson replied, "I am passionate about music, travel and my family."

In regards to her strengths as an educator Mrs. Goranson stated, "I have always tried to be an empathetic educator that wants what is best for each and every student. I hope students have felt valued and cared for in my presence."

Mrs. Goranson described a successful school year as, "When students and staff are sad to leave their buildings in May and can't wait to return in August: a year filled with new knowledge, self-exploration and self-confidence."

Mrs. Goranson stated that "A favorite school memory I have was when Mrs. Retzlaff and I were getting our Master's Degrees together at Chadron State. A lot of learning coupled with a lot of fun!"

One thing Mrs. Goranson wants her students to take away from their time in her classroom is, "I do not have my own "classroom" but I hope students remember not just what I have said but how I made them feel. I hope they feel empowered to design their own future and realize anything is possible."

When asked, If you had total control, what would be one thing you would do to improve Gordon-Rushville Public Schools? Mrs. Goranson stated "I would love to have a performing arts space. An auditorium for music, plays and speech with an entryway or lobby to display visual art."

Finally when Mrs. Goranson 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, "Although this is not deep or profound, I would love to have dinner with James Taylor and I would ask him to just sit, play his guitar and sing for hours on end!"



Heather Pearson is the Resource Education teacher at Gordon-Rushville Middle School. Mrs. Pearson completed her Elementary K-6 and Special Education K-12 degrees at Chadron State College in Chadron.

Mrs. Pearson's family consists of her husband Matt and son Nathan. They have a yellow lab named Mickey and a chinchilla named Lucy. Their hobbies include spending time outside camping, fishing, and boating. In the winter they like to go to Rush games and spend time with family.

When asked what was something she is passionate about, Mrs. Pearson replied, "I am passionate about getting to know my students and building a good teacher/ student bond. This makes the students feel comfortable when they come into my room and it allows them to be themselves with me. I feel like every student can learn it is just finding a way to channel their abilities into the right method of teaching."

In regards to her teaching strengths Mrs. Pearson stated, "I feel like I am very flexible and can find other ways that students can complete their assignment that might match their skill and abilities better. I feel like the students know what to expect from me which makes it easy for them to know how to be successful in my classroom."

Mrs. Pearson described a successful school year as, "When my students are learning to the best of their abilities and we have formed a bond that allows them to be who they are when I am around, I don't want them to feel like they need to be who I want them to be."

When it comes to school memories, Mrs. Pearson mentioned that "I love any of the times that the students and teachers can do silly things together such as pep rallies or the dodgeball tournament we had last year."

When asked what was one thing she wanted her students to take away from their time in her classroom, she replied, "That being honest and straightforward will get you farther in life than trying to hide something you may have done wrong."

If Mrs. Pearson had total control of Gordon-Rushville Schools she would build the district new state of the art buildings where the maintenance wouldn't be a factor in our budget Finally when Mrs. Pearson 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, "One of my deceased grandparents to learn more family history and more about my genealogy."

