

# CTL Corner Summer Edition

August 2017

## Dear CTL Families:

We hope you're enjoying a wonderful summer break!

Our CTL Leadership Team has had a productive summer working together to ensure a smooth start to the 2017-18 school year. In this newsletter, we are pleased to share the following information with you:

- Meet our 2017-18 CTL Team
- 2017-18 School Calendars
- School Facility Updates
- Enroll in our After-school Program/Care
- Preparing for the First Day of School
- Volunteer Opportunities at CTL
- Mark Your Calendars



Please note that RenWeb online enrollment will be sent out to families in early-mid August so be on the lookout for the email. This will include access to our comprehensive *Student-Parent Handbook*.

We look forward to continuing to partner with you as we enter this new exciting phase together as a school community.

Happy Summer!

**CTL Team**



## Meet our 2017-18 CTL Team!

We are excited to announce our CTL Team for the 2017-18 school year! We welcome new additions to our team who will add new expertise to compliment the strengths of our existing team. We have also redefined some of our current staff roles to ensure CTL's continued positive growth. We are grateful for the contributions of our team members who are unable to return to CTL this year, and we wish them the best wherever they go!

We look forward to introducing you to our CTL Team in person at our **Meet the Teacher** and **Meet & Greet** events on Tuesday, August 22. See the calendar events at the end of this newsletter for more information.

## Our New CTL Teammates



## Dr. Darryl Morris

### ***Principal and Director of Administrative Services***

We are fortunate to have Dr. Darryl Morris joining us as our Principal this year. Darryl earned his Ed. D. in Curriculum and Instruction and Educational Leadership from Texas A&M University, his M.Ed. in Educational Leadership from Stephen F. Austin State University, and his B.S. in Business Management from the University of Maryland. He holds Texas Professional Mid-Management Administrator's Certifications as Principal, Supervisor and Superintendent Grades EC-12 and Texas teaching certificates in Elementary Self-Contained Grades 1-8 and Grades 6-12 Secondary Earth Science, Reading, English, Business Administration, German, and Social Studies Composite. Darryl brings over 17 years of teaching experience and 15 years of administrative experience in the schools. He has served as both teacher and principal at the elementary, middle and high school levels and as curriculum director, program director and Director of Human Resources and Public Relations at the district level. In addition Darryl has been professor in both elementary and secondary education at Stephen F. Austin State University and at the University of Nevada, Reno where he chaired the elementary and secondary social studies programs. Darryl is not new to CTL as he served as Vice President of the founding board and as a consultant for several years during the planning stages. He shares the CTL's vision and will focus all his efforts on providing a positive teaching and learning environment for parents, students and staff.

✉ [dmorris@centerforteachinga...](mailto:dmorris@centerforteachinga...)





## Ms. Anne-Marie (Annie) Manning

### *Kindergarten Teacher*

We are excited to have Annie Manning joining our team as our Kindergarten teacher! Annie earned a B.S. in Psychology with honors from Texas A&M University prior to pursuing her passion for education with a focus on early childhood. She holds Texas teaching certifications in Early Childhood Education, Grades PK-KG; Generic Special Education Grades PK-12; and English as a Second Language Supplemental Grades PK-12. Annie brings over 20 years of teaching experience in early childhood education with 13 of those years in kindergarten. She has served as a master teacher and mentor teacher in two area districts, has written kindergarten curriculum, and has designed and delivered a multitude of professional development sessions on writing in early childhood and classroom management. She has been honored as a campus Teacher of the Year, an Ambassador in Education, and has received multiple Teacher Achieving Excellence Awards. Annie has a passion for fostering the development of our youngest readers, writers and thinkers and a commitment to building strong relationships with her students and their families. We look forward to an engaging year ahead!

✉ [amanning@centerforteachin...](mailto:amanning@centerforteachin...)



## Ms. Monica Lopez

***Grades PreK-8 Physical Education Teacher, Teaching Assistant & After-School Activities Coordinator***

We are excited to announce the addition of Monica Lopez to our CTL Team. Monica earned her B.S. degree in Kinesiology from University of Texas, El Paso and is currently pursuing her Masters in Sport Administration (Sports Marketing Concentration) at Adelphi University. From 2011 to 2014 she was coach and board member with the USATF Texas Border Association where she had over five qualifiers for Junior Olympics and developed 16 regional qualifiers. She created and developed a workout plan that is still in use today, increased membership by 50% over four years, led the number one jump team overall in border associations for youth and young adults, and earned multiple sponsorships from local area businesses. Monica has also been a successful athlete at the collegiate level. She was a member of the UTEP Track and Field Program for four years where she was on the 2014 Indoor Conference USA Championship team and earned the Conference USA Spring Spirit of Service Award in 2015. Monica was also a Texas Heat Track and Field Coach and Secretary for several years. Most recently Monica has worked at Fort Bend ISD as an Instructional Aide for various grade levels. In her spare time Monica enjoys outdoor activities and is a life-long learner. We are excited to have Monica join our team and share her passion for PE with our students!

 [mlopez@centerforteachinga...](mailto:mlopez@centerforteachinga...)



## Mr. James Milner

### *Grades 5-8 Drama Teacher*

We are delighted to announce the addition of James Milner to our CTL Team. James earned his B. A. degree in Sociology from Victoria University, Wellington, NZ. He went on to complete his Diploma of Journalism from the London School of Journalism, a Diploma of Public Relations from the Australian College of Business and Marketing, and a Graduate Diploma in Education from Deakin University, Melbourne. James also has further training and Certifications in Mediation, Life Coaching and Training and Assessment. James has had successful careers in radio, news reading and most recently education. He is passionate about instilling a love of learning in his students while promoting their self-confidence and public speaking abilities. We look forward to having James share his passion and experience with our students and faculty!

✉ [jmilner@centerforteachinga...](mailto:jmilner@centerforteachinga...)

## Our Whole CTL Team



### Dr. Linda Ellis

Head of School & Director  
of Student Services



### Dr. Darryl Morris

Principal & Director of  
Administrative Services



### Amelia Maia

Administrative Assistant





**Beckey Billings**

Pre-Kindergarten Teacher



**Annie Manning**

Kindergarten Teacher



**Lisa Lipar**

Grades 1-2 Teacher



**Melanie Smith**

Grades 3-4 Teacher



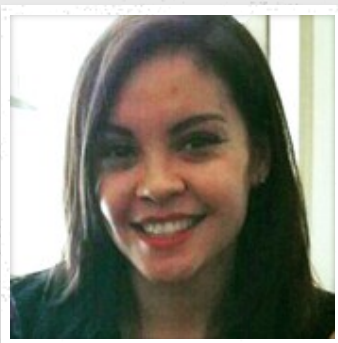
**Lori Williams**

Grades 5-8 Math/Science &  
5-6 Social Studies Teacher



**Angela Bailey**

Grades 5-8 Language Arts &  
7-8 Social Studies Teacher



**Monica Lopez**

Grades Pre-K-8 Physical  
Education Teacher,  
Teaching Assistant & After  
School Activities  
Coordinator



**Treva McKissic**

Grades Pre-K-8 Art Teacher



**James Milner**

Grades 5-8 Drama Teacher



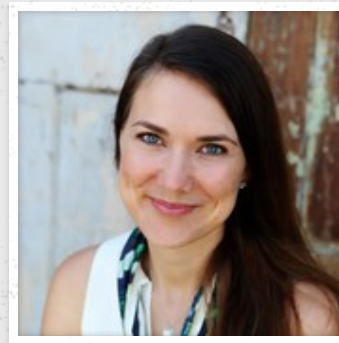
**Diane Engle**

Grades PreK-8 Music  
Teacher



**Jennifer  
Chamberlain**

Administrative Consultant



**Paige Lewis**

Administrative Consultant



**Dr. Sharon Lewis**

Early Literacy Consultant

## 2017-18 School Calendars

Please see our [2017-18 School Calendar](#) for important school dates, holidays, etc. Please also see our tentative [2017-18 Events Calendar](#). All dates on the Events Calendar are subject to change based on the needs of the school community.

## School Facility Updates

Our school building was carefully renovated over the summer break, and we are eagerly awaiting the return of our students! Warmest thanks to Dr. Joyce Armstrong Carroll for donating more wonderful books to our ever-expanding library and for recruiting Kristy Hill, certified librarian from Keller ISD and Abydos Trainer, to spend a week setting up our barcode and checkout system. Thanks also to those who have worked diligently this



summer to complete the job so the books are ready for checkout when school begins. Texas recommends that libraries contain 20 books per student for elementary and 18 books per student for intermediate/middle school. At 10,000 books, we have approximately 138 books per student, not counting the thousands in our classroom libraries. Our CTL students are so fortunate!

We are continuing to develop our outdoor spaces to maximize student engagement. Thanks to the handiwork of Dr. Morris, we now have a separate area for our 5-8 grade students to enjoy at the rear of the property. He has also kindly built and installed the amazing wooden sign at the entrance of our school.



### Library Barcoding

Our team of barcoders has included Keller ISD Librarian Kristy Hill who also co-authored *Guided by Meaning* and our graduating student Maizee Chamberlain. Many thanks for your hard work ladies!



### Grades 5-8 Outdoor Space

Dr. Morris has cleared the area at the rear of the property, and we plan to install picnic tables in this area. We hope grades 5-8 students enjoy this new multi-purpose area!



### CTL Sign

Many thanks to Dr. Morris for constructing our incredible new CTL sign! This was hand made from cedar and certainly adds some penache to our school entrance.

## Enroll in our After-School Program/Care

We are excited to announce our 2017-18 After-School Program! Some of our programs will run throughout the year while others may be limited to one or two trimesters. A trimester program runs for approximately 8-12 weeks. Our Trimester One After-School Program begins on Tuesday, September 5 and will conclude through Friday, November 9, 2017

Please note that the proposed options below are designed to assist with forward planning for next year. Specific dates and times are subject to change based on family interest and student enrollment. A finalized timetable will be available in early September.

If you are interested in registering for our After-School and After-Care programs, please view the [Proposed Schedule](#) and return your completed [Registration Form](#) to Ms. Maia at the front office by **Friday, September 1, 2017.**

# Preparing for the First Day of School

**Want to get a jump start to the school year?** Did you know that your school fees cover all general classroom supplies including pencils, paper, books, etc. All you need to purchase are personal organizational items, snack/lunch items, a backpack, and in-door shoes. Pre-K students will also need a few additional nap items. Full details of what to bring to school will be available in our new *Student-Parent Handbook* to be accessed through our RenWeb online enrollment portal during the final enrollment process in early-mid August.

We recognize that many families wish to make connections with new classmates prior to the start of the school year. Therefore, class lists will be available on RenWeb following our RenWeb online enrollment in early-mid August. This will allow parents the opportunity to reach out to their children's new classmates prior to the first day of school.

## Volunteer Opportunities at CTL

Interested in developing our school playgrounds or student gardens? Please contact Dr. Darryl Morris at [dmorris@centerforteachingandlearning.com](mailto:dmorris@centerforteachingandlearning.com). If you are interested in assisting in the library, contact Dr. Linda Ellis at [lellis@centerforteachingandlearning.com](mailto:lellis@centerforteachingandlearning.com). All assistance is most appreciated as we continue to develop our school programs and resources!

Volunteer opportunities will also be available throughout the year. All parents are welcome to attend our monthly *Parent Council Meetings* one Wednesday each month from 8:30 - 9:30 a.m., and the library will be made available each Wednesday from 8:30 - 9:30 a.m. for parents to meet for event planning. Dates are available on the CTL Events Calendar.

More details on parent involvement at CTL will be available in the *Student-Parent Handbook* that can be accessed online during the RenWeb online enrollment process in mid August. You can also contact Dr. Linda Ellis for further details.

## Mark Your Calendars!



## **CTL Meet the Teacher and Meet & Greet**

### **WHEN**

Tuesday, Aug. 22nd, 2-5pm

### **WHERE**

CTL and Wendtwoods Park

### **MORE INFORMATION**

Students and families are invited to drop in and meet their teacher(s) in their classrooms from 2:00-3:00 p.m. This will be followed by a casual Meet & Greet at Wendtwoods Park from 3:00-5:00 p.m. We look forward to visiting with each of you!

## **First Day of School**

### **WHEN**

Wednesday, Aug. 23rd, 7:45am-3:15pm

### **WHERE**

Center for Teaching and Learning, 26131 Kuykendahl Road, Tomball, TX

### **CTL Website**

Click this button above for more information regarding our school.

### **CTL Facebook Page**

Click this button above for Facebook pictures and updates from our school.

### **CTL Parent Facebook Page**

Click this button above and join our CTL Parent Facebook community!



