

pen Classroomm



Dear Open Classroom Community,

While it takes many employees to have a school run effectively, I feel that the most important job in the school is that of the classroom teacher. It is the daily, caring, and tailored contact that a teacher has with each student that is able to influence and educate each child. In my ten years of administration, I can surely say, that this new group of educators here at the OC is the best group of teachers that I have ever been a part of hiring. Please help me in welcoming these new teachers to the Open Classroom. Enjoy these personal introductions.



Martin

Michelle Loomis

Upper Grade Teacher

Hi,

I'm Michelle. I am so excited to be a member of the OC

community. When I was in my

Master's program at the U, I dreamt of a place where the children were part of the decision making. I focused my thesis on cooperative classrooms and school cultures. After finishing at the U, I spent 5 years teaching junior high science in the traditional setting trying to weave as much community building and authentic learning into the classroom as possible. Then, I took 3 years out of the classroom, the last two years I spent on a winter farm in Idaho. Our family of four lived in a yurt and managed 5 greenhouses where we grew cooking greens, salad mixes and cooking herbs. It was a wonderful experience, but I am glad to be back in Salt Lake City where my family can continue our farming mission in the urban setting. In addition to growing my own food, I enjoy dancing, yoga, and everything insects! I am grateful that I have the opportunity to share my passions with all the members of this community, especially the Kids!





Rochelle Russell
Learning Support
Teacher

Hi, I'm Rochelle Russell
from the new Learning
Support team. I've been

teaching for thirteen years and in my former life I have done many jobs:

Wilderness Instructor, Hot Shot Wildland Fire fighter for eight years,
parole/probation office, youth counselor/mentor and youth corrections.

As I say it, "My life is an adventure." I love the outdoors and have three dogs that I take hiking, biking, backpacking, camping. I'm an avid cross fitter and triathlete. In the end, the more I can damage my body the better. Life is an adventure and as former military spouse, I have lived in six different states. Originally from Oregon and just moved here in from Arizona but I lived in here 10 years ago. Wow, how time flies! I'm happy to be back and looking forward to learning more about the OC and see y'all around!

James Smith
1st / 2nd Grade Teacher



Hi,

My name is James Smith. I am the new first/second grade teacher. Let me tell you a little bit about myself. I just recently moved to Salt Lake City last year from Denver. It has been great!! I

have really enjoyed traveling all around Utah and neighboring states while living here. I really enjoy skiing, biking, and soccer. It has been great coming here and exploring new trails and ski resorts. I also enjoy cooking and making and looking at art. Other than that I have had a wonderful first two weeks at the Open Classroom. Everyone has been so welcoming and helpful. I look forward talking with students, parents and staff in the following year. I am excited to be a part of this wonderful school! Feel free to come down to my room to say hello.

Elizabeth Whittle
Learning Support Teacher



I am thrilled to join the Open Classroom community. My teaching experience includes: special education classroom teacher at New York City Public School 179, therapist and

supervisor working with students with Autistic Spectrum Disorder, preschool teacher at the Jewish Community Center in Salt Lake City and classroom special education teacher in a therapeutic preschool.

My family and I moved to Salt Lake City in 2009 from Manhattan, New York. I fell in love with the beauty and outdoor activities Salt Lake City has to offer. Hiking and skiing with my husband and children in these glorious mountains are my personal favorites. My other interests include being a hockey and soccer mom. I look forward to integrating myself into the Open Classroom Community.

Anna Bayona Kindergarten Teacher

Hi O.C.

I am Anna Bayona
a kindergarten
teacher.

My husband

Michael and I are new to the Open Classroom this year. We moved to Utah from Arkansas about two years ago for Michael's work at the U. We actually met and got married in Utah at Zion Park. We love to hike and explore caves, read and play on the computer, and to teach and learn new things. We also love it here at the Open Classroom. Please stop by the Kindergarten classroom to say hello. I can't wait to meet all of you.

Thank you Kindergarteners for making my first week of school here great!!





Dan Sachse Counselor

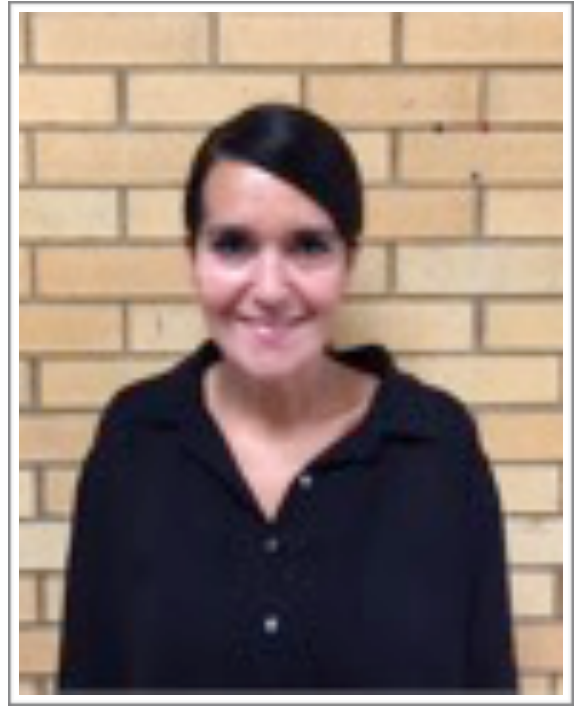
A little about me, This is my forth year as a school counselor. I was previously at Bryant Middle School.

I have been involved with adolescents for 12 years working for The Division of Child and Family Services for 7 years and in a residential treatment center before that. I graduated with my bachelors in Criminal Justice from Weber State and got my Master's in School Counseling from University of Phoenix.

I have two children; a 14 year old son and an 11 year old daughter. I enjoy being outside and being active. I am currently on a recreational basketball team and soccer team. I like to camp, hike, collect rocks, birding, playing sports, and taking photographs.

Amber Seppi

2nd/3rd Grade Teacher



I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself.

My name is Amber Seppi and I am the new 2nd/3rd grade teacher at the OC. I earned my Bachelor of Science from the University of Utah in Human Development and Family Studies with an emphasis in Early Childhood Education and a Master of Arts in Teaching from Westminster College.

I spent my summer enjoying my time off with my son Traiton. Our daily and weekly activities included, but were not limited to cooking banana waffles, riding our bikes and longboards in the park, exploring new local restaurants, swimming, making weekly trips to Lagoon, and spending time with family and friends.

I am ready to start a wonderful school year! While this is only a brief introduction, I hope you feel comfortable with my role in the Open Classroom community. If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.



The Open Classroom has a unique opportunity to partner with Big Brothers Big Sisters on a fundraising venture. [Big Brothers Big Sisters](#) conducts clothing drives to raise money for their organization. Perhaps you have seen their donation bins or received a card in the mail alerting you to such a pickup in your neighborhood. Big Brothers Big Sisters has started to partner with local groups and share in the funds raised as a thank you for helping their organization. These groups have had much success with the partnership. We are lucky to have been invited to be part of this opportunity. The Open Classroom will run the clothing drive, Big Brothers Big Sisters comes to collect our donations, and then they share a generous portion of the funds raised with us.

We need your help to make this opportunity successful. The more we collect, the greater the amount we will receive to help support the Open Classroom's programs that are not funded out of the school operating budget.

Our first clothing drive will be held Labor Day Week, Sept 8-11, 2015.

For now, as you go through your closets, please put aside your unwanted, gently used clothing items for a donation to our first Open Classroom clothing drive.

Also, please reach out to your family, friends and neighbors who might want to help us. What a great way to get people to donate to our great school! And it won't cost them anything and will clean out their closets.

Items that can be donated include anything you can wear. And because we will be "paid" by the pound, shoes and outerwear are great additions to the drive.

Feel free to share this information with everyone you know.

Thank you for all you do for the Open Classroom Community.



Enrollment Instructions

Smith's Community Rewards

- You must have a registered Smith's *rewards* card account to link to an organization.
- Do you use your phone number at the register? Call 800-576-4377, select option 3 to get your Smith's *rewards* card number.
- If you do not yet have a Smith's *rewards* card, they are available at the customer service desk at any Smith's.

Step by step instructions, for new online accounts:

- Visit our website at www.smithscommunityrewards.com
- Click on **Register Now**
- Complete Sign in Information by entering your email address and creating a password.
Enter your zip code in the "Your location", then select your favorite store, and agree to the terms and conditions.
- A message to check your email inbox will appear, Check your email account, you must click on the link within the body of the email to continue.
- View all information— enter your *rewards* card number and edit as necessary
- Link your card to your organization in Account Summary:
 - Community Rewards
 - Enroll
 - Search for Organization by name or the Organizations unique (NPO) NON-Profit
Organization number **84398**
 - Click **Enroll**

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If you already have a Smith's online account or want to Edit the Organization you previously selected:

- **Sign in** to your account. Enter your email address and password. Click on your name under Welcome back!
- In **Account Summary** – The last option is Community Rewards.
- Click on **Enroll / Edit**
- Enter a NPO (Non-Profit Organization) number or a few letters of the organizations name then **Search**
Select an organization from the list and click **Enroll**.
- To verify you are enrolled correctly, you will see the organization's name on the Account Summary page.

84398

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REMEMBER, purchases will not count until after you register your *rewards* card and link to an organization.

Members must swipe their registered Smith's *rewards* card or use the phone number that is related to their registered Smith's *rewards* card when shopping for each purchase to count.



Annual Back-to-school Picnic

Thursday, September 10, 2015

6:00-8:00pm

Sugarhouse Park - Hidden Cove Pavillion

Bring a dish to share and reusable dishes/utensils for your family

Bring the whole family!

All children must be supervised; please do not drop off and leave.

Sponsored by the Community Connections Committee

☉☉ at the Avenues Street Fair

- ♦ The OC will have a booth at the [Avenues Street Fair](#) on Saturday Sep. 12th
- ♦ Fair hours are 9 AM to 6 PM and its located on 3rd Ave. between O and T Streets.
- ♦ Two OC alumni will be playing in MusicGarage bands during the street fair at 9:30am & 11 am
- ♦ There will also be alumni families with booths, selling their wares.
- ♦ Wear an OC shirt and stop by to support our community and show your school pride!