



# THE KING'S ACADEMY

## New TKA Staff & Faculty 2019-2020

### New Staff Biographies

**Lori Ferrante** will be working at TKA as our full-time **Main Office Receptionist**. Lori comes to TKA with over thirty-four years of teaching experience, a BA in Religious Education from Valley Forge Christian College, and a lifetime private school credential from Pennsylvania.

**Joanna Lee** has built a career in education working as a tutor, teaching assistant, and Chinese teacher in both China and the Bay Area. Prior to teaching, Mrs. Lee attended Zhejiang University of Finance and Economics, where she earned her BA in Business English. Mrs. Lee will be serving as the **Assistant to the Librarian**.

**Kim Mackintosh** has an educational background in Humanities and Theater Art. She brings to TKA an impressive performance history, as well as hands-on experience as a dance teacher. Mrs. Mackintosh looks forward to serving as the **Visual and Performing Arts Department Assistant**.

**Kathy Vook** will be the **Assistant to the Director of Curriculum and Instruction**. Mrs. Vook comes to TKA with a history of service in various volunteer roles at school, church, and other organizations. Prior to her years of volunteer service, she spent many years working in the field of Finance. Mrs. Vook is a graduate of California Polytechnic State University where she earned her BS in Business Administration.

### New Faculty Biographies

**Rebecca Chan** will be teaching **English 9 Honors, Public Speaking and Debate, and Junior High Debate** this year. Most recently, Ms. Chan taught 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grade English at Yerba Buena High School in San Jose. Ms. Chan earned her BA in English, with a creative writing emphasis in poetry and fiction writing, from the University of California along with her single subject teaching credential in English from San Jose State University.

**Larah de Bussy** earned her MA in Public Administration from the University of San Francisco, as well as a post-baccalaureate certificate in Education and a BA in Political Science from Seattle Pacific University. Mrs. de Bussy holds a preliminary single subject teaching credential in Social Science and will be the **U.S. History 11 teacher**.

**Abigail DeGraaf** brings to TKA over eighteen years of experience on the stage, a Master of Arts in Teaching and a Bachelor of Arts in Theatre from Covenant College. Miss DeGraaf will be teaching **Theater 1-4 classes, Video Production and Editing, and Speaking with Confidence**.

**Angi Deng** will be teaching **Chemistry** this year. She earned her MA in Education and her BS in Chemistry from the University of California at Santa Cruz. Additionally, Ms. Deng has a single subject teaching credential in Chemistry, Biology, and ELA 1. Ms. Deng has over eight years of experience, most recently teaching Chemistry, Honors and AP Chemistry at Mercy High School.

**Rachel Denis** comes to TKA with more than fourteen years of teaching, guidance and counseling skills, in both private and public institutions in multiple countries. Mrs. Denis studied in France, where she completed a BS from the Institute of Teacher Training and a BS in Education from the University of Technology. We look forward to having Mrs. Denis join our World Languages Department where she will teach **French 2 and French 3** this year.

**Jasmine Doan** is a graduate of Stanford University where she earned her BS in Management Science and Engineering. Ms. Doan will teach **Algebra 1**. Ms. Doan brings experience from her time teaching in Hawaii and New York City.

**Taryn Durbin**, a **TKA alumna**, currently possess a CA Clear Teaching Credential in Mathematics, an MA Ed in Curriculum and Instruction from the University of Phoenix, and a BA in Mathematics from the University of California, Santa Barbara. Her teaching experiences over the last fifteen years ranged from Pre Algebra to Intermediate Algebra. Mrs. Durbin will serve as the **Algebra 2** teacher.

**Winnie Huang** will be teaching **Mandarin 2, Mandarin 3, Mandarin 4, and AP Chinese Language and Culture** this year. She is a veteran teacher who has taught Mandarin Chinese in both California and Taiwan. She earned her MA Ed and single subject teaching credential from Argosy University, as well as her MA from New York University and a BS from Chinese Culture University in Taipei.

**Calico Jan** comes from Southern California and is a graduate of Evangel University where she earned her BS in Biology and her BS in Environmental Science with a minor in Chemistry. Passionate about the sciences, Miss Jan will be teaching **Science 8**.

**Annette Lane** will be teaching **Robotics Engineering and Programming** as well as **Introduction to Engineering Design with Project Lead the Way** this year. Mrs. Lane is eager to share her extensive knowledge and expertise in robotics and engineering with her students. A long-time industry professional, Mrs. Lane most recently served at a local Christian school as the Director of the Robotics Program. Mrs. Lane earned her BS from the University of Puerto Rico and completed her training with Project Lead the Way in the Principles of Engineering.

**Laura Longshore** is a graduate of San Jose State University where she earned her BA in Performing Arts as well as a single subject teaching credential for music. Mrs. Longshore has an extensive repertoire of teaching and directing choral, instrumental or general music programs, and musical theater. Mrs. Longshore will be teaching **Dance 6/Theatre 6, Junior High Fundamentals of Theatre, Theatre 1, and Film Studies**.

**Nicolae Nitescu**, a native of Romania, earned his MS in Physics from the University of Bucharest. Mr. Nitescu enjoys teaching Physics, Python, and JavaScript classes to a diverse array of students, most recently at the college level. Mr. Nitescu incorporates hands-on activities that encourage active student participation, involvement, and teamwork. Continuing with his passion, Mr. Nitescu will be teaching **Physics and AP Physics 1** this year.

**Alex Park** comes from Gyeonggi Suwon International School in Korea where she has worked for nine years teaching Psychology. Mrs. Park completed her teaching preparation program with Princeton University, earned her Master of Divinity and her MA in Christian Education from Princeton Theological Seminary, as well as a BA in Psychology from Emory University. Mrs. Park will be bringing both her expertise and passion to the classroom as our **Introduction to Psychology, AP Psychology, and Bible 11 teacher**.

**Miyong Park** has recently moved to California from South Korea where she taught Secondary Math and Science at Bundang International School. She will be teaching **Biology** as well as **Anatomy and Physiology** this year. Currently, Mrs. Park is working on her Ph.D. in Teaching, Learning and Teacher Education from the University of Pennsylvania Graduate School of Education. She is a graduate of Harvard Graduate School of Education, where she earned her Ed.M. in Learning and Teaching, and she holds her Secondary Teacher Certification in Biology from Bryn Mawr College. Mrs. Park also attended Haverford College where she earned a B.A. in Biology.

**Cristine Vo**, a **TKA alumna**, will be teaching **English 7** and **English 8** this year. She holds a Masters of Science in Education from Walden University, with a specialization in Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment. She has her teaching credential and a BA in English from the University of California, Riverside. Ms. Vo brings ten years of teaching experience in a Christian school setting.