



The VOICE of ZEUS

Get to Know your Teachers
Edition
August, 2024

MS. LILIANA FEMAT



I will be your Spanish Language Arts teacher this year! I look forward to meeting you. I love teaching and inspiring young minds to become creative thinkers and independent learners. I have over 22 years of experience in education, my #1 mission is to foster a love for learning, and build a community where every student feels valued and inspired. I hold a Masters Degree in Education. When I'm not in the classroom, you can find me reading or hiking outdoors with my family.

MRS. LISA KASSABOV

Hello, my name is Mrs. Kassabov (you can call me Mrs. K) This is my 7th year teaching at Tefft. This year, I'll be teaching 7th Grade Accelerated Math, Algebra 1, and Honors Geometry. I have two children: a 21 year old daughter who is studying Aerospace Engineering, and a 15 year old son who is a Sophomore at Elgin High School's Gifted and Talented Academy. My husband works in the technology field. I have two rescue dogs—Hermione and Padme.

I was born in Hong Kong and I grew up in Canada. I immigrated to the United States in the 90's when I was hired to teach in the Rockford School District. I have 5 younger brothers. I speak Chinese and French in addition to English. In my free time, I love to travel, cook, bake, and read. I'm excited for the great year ahead of us. Go Team Zeus!



MRS. VALERIE ALBUCK



I am your English Language Arts teacher. I have been a middle school teacher for 24 years...21 of them at Tefft! I graduated from Larkin HS and then Judson and St. Xavier Universities, where I earned my Bachelor's and Master's degrees.

I am married to a retired soldier, and we have 3 adult children and twin grandbabies whom I absolutely adore!



I am a huge Bears and Cubs fan. I like to do lots of activities...hiking and various sports, but my favorite days are ones I can stay in my pajamas and binge watch comedy sitcoms. I'm currently into my chocolate-flavored coffee, all books with dragons (sometimes several at the same time), crafting, & playing puzzle games. It's going to be a great year. Team Zeus Rules!!

MRS. DEBBIE JOHN-JEFFREY



Hi, My name is Mrs. John- Jeffrey I will be your child's Science teacher this year. It is a pleasure to work with your child in order to explore the wonders of science. In order to be successful this year, students are expected to arrive to class on time with the required materials, and a positive attitude. Together, we can make this the best year yet! I was born on the Island of Trinidad And Tobago. I have a B.Sc. in Chemistry and a Masters in Science Education and Geology, City University of New York. I am married and the mother of 1 son. I have been teaching 8th grade for 33 years, 27 years at Tefft, 1 year at Larkin High School, 5 years at the New York City Dept of Education.

DR. RAMIRO JUÁREZ

I am the U.S. History and Social Studies teacher for team Zeus. I have been a school teacher for 16 years; 8 of those at Tefft Middle School. I have four children in U-46 schools ranging from 1st grade through Sophomore year of high school. I was born and raised in the Northwest Suburbs and received my Bachelor's Degree in History from DePaul University. I then attained my first master's degree from Rockford University in Education followed by a Masters degree in Special Education from Grand Canyon University. Most recently in 2023, I completed my defense and was awarded my Doctoral Degree from Loyola University of Chicago in Educational Administration and Supervision. I am fluent in both English and Spanish, value my Mexican heritage and am incredibly proud to be an American. In my free time, my family loves to spend time with each other traveling or outdoors on trips through the wilderness, camping, hiking, and hunting deer, turkey, ducks and geese. I enjoy listening to older Mexican Ranchero music as well as the latest Country hits on US99 in addition to Tropical House and some good 90's music. I am looking forward to a wonderful, productive and successful year for all of our students! Welcome!



Zeus Spirit!

We are coming together as a team! The House of Zeus is the only team at Tefft to have both 7th and 8th graders. We had our first chance to support each other at our assemblies on Friday 8/16. The 8th grade Zeus students supported our 7th graders competing in Hungry Hippos and 7th graders cheered on our 8th graders. Both teams made us proud with second place and our whole team set the standard for school spirit. We were amazing! A special shout-out to Shehbaz and Fabian who volunteered to be our Zeus mascots for the first assembly. They rocked!

We all got our golden team t-shirts which we personalized and will wear on all team competition days. Zeus students also created and voted for our team slogan "Zeus: We Bring the Thunder". We will decorate our hallway based on this theme in the upcoming weeks. Zeus teachers couldn't be prouder of our students.

See our pics below!

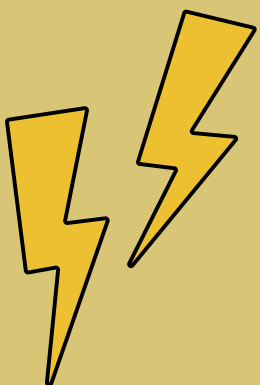




PHOTO ZEUS ALBUM

