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Oak Ridge school system welcomes 30 new teachers

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Thirty new teachers will greet Oak Ridge schools' students as they return to class Monday. Last Thursday, the school system sponsored its annual New Teacher Orientation to welcome the new employees.

The day featured morning and afternoon sessions in which the educators learned about Oak Ridge schools, were introduced to school administrators, ate lunch, and filled out paperwork.

Oak Ridge Mayor Pro Tem Jane Miller attended Thursday's luncheon. A former student in the Oak Ridge schools, Miller said, "Many things have changed in the schools. But something that hasn't changed is the love, caring and teaching that goes beyond the classroom."

"What a great team," Oak Ridge School Superintendent Tom Bailey said, after introductions were made.

Oak Ridge schools' new teachers, listed by school, are:

- Oak Ridge Preschool

Julie Clemens, a native of Norman, Okla., holds a bachelor's degree in early childhood education from University of Oklahoma, Norman. She taught for five years as a pre-kindergarten teacher in Oklahoma.

- Glenwood Elementary School

Kristi Boruff, Knoxville, holds a bachelor's degree in child development/early childhood education from the University of Tennessee-Knoxville and a master's degree in curriculum and instruction from UT. She has taught for 12 years.

Judy Carpenter, Knoxville, a veteran teacher with 34 years experience, holds a bachelor's degree in elementary education from Knoxville College.

Betty Wooten, Savannah, Ga., has 17 years experience as an elementary teacher in Florida, Ohio, and Tennessee schools. She holds a bachelor's degree in elementary education from Savannah State University, a master's degree in reading from Middle Tennessee State University, and a doctorate and education specialist degree in reading/reading education from Florida State University.

- Linden Elementary School

Julie Craig, Biloxi, Miss., will teach kindergarten. She has 12 years experience teaching in North Carolina and Knoxville parochial schools. Craig holds a bachelor's degree in elementary education from Transylvania University.

Amy Fuqua, McMinnville, has taught school for five years in Tennessee. She holds a bachelor's degree in interdisciplinary studies from Middle Tennessee State University and master's degree in instructional leadership from Tennessee Tech.

Stephanie Hodge, Knoxville, has taught for 11 years in Tennessee schools. She holds a bachelor's degree in business education from UT and a master's degree in curriculum and instruction from UT.

Christine Wade, Knoxville, has taught reading in Tennessee schools for six years. She holds a bachelor's degree in

elementary education and a master's degree in curriculum and instruction, both from UT.

- Willow Brook Elementary

Sara Cochran, Lenoir City, will teach art. With four years teaching experience, Cochran holds a bachelor's degree in fine arts and a master's degree in art education, both from UT.

Emily Flatau, Oak Ridge, spent last year teaching at a parochial school. She holds a bachelor's degree in early childhood education from Miami University.

Andrew McDonald, of Halls in Knox County, has taught for the last six years in international and private schools. He attended UT, earning bachelor's and master's degrees in early childhood education.

Kimberly Potts, Oak Ridge, interned with Knox County schools during the 2006-07 school year. She holds both bachelor's and master's degrees in early childhood education from UT.

- Jefferson Middle School

Tracy Weber, Pontotoc, Miss., has nine years experience teaching social studies in Florida and one year spent teaching online social studies courses through a Florida virtual school. She holds a bachelor's degree in social science education and a master's degree in instructional technology, both earned from the University of Central Florida.

- Robertsville Middle School

Jeremy Carringer, Oak Ridge, will teach physical education. He has seven years experience as an elementary PE teacher in Tennessee schools, and holds a bachelor's degree in health and physical education from Tennessee Tech University.

Traci Russell, Greenback, will teach English and serve as cheerleading coach at RMS. She has taught for two years in Tennessee and Alabama schools, and holds a bachelor's degree in secondary education from Tennessee Tech.

Sean Seyfert, Knoxville, will teach art at RMS. With four years teaching experience, Seyfert holds a bachelor's degree in fine arts and a master's degree in art education, both from UT.

Abigail Wilmore, Kentwood, Mich., has worked for seven years as a private violin instructor, and interned in Michigan schools during the 2006-07 school year. She will teach music at RMS. Wilmore holds a bachelor's degree in music education from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

- Oak Ridge High School

Christopher Scott, Knoxville, will serve as vice principal. He spent five years as a special education and history teacher in Tennessee. Scott holds a bachelor's degree in history/geography from UT, a master's degree in secondary education history from Vanderbilt University, and an education specialist degree in education and administration from UT.

Tim Anger, Slidell, La., will teach social studies at ORHS. Anger has nine years experience in the classroom. He holds a bachelor's degree in history from the University of South Florida and a master's degree in social science education from UT.

Sharon Cate, Knoxville, will teach Spanish at ORHS. She has taught Spanish for 12 years and holds an associate degree in elementary education from Walters State Community College and a bachelor's degree in Spanish from UT.

Janice Farr, Knoxville, will be a health science instructor at ORHS. She has taught in the classroom for seven years and also worked for seven years as a registered nurse in various health care settings. Farr holds both bachelor's and master's degrees in nursing from UT.

Thomas Fuhrman, Hohenwald, will teach English at ORHS. With five years teaching experience, Fuhrman holds a

bachelor's degree in anthropology/German from Hanover College and a master's degree in educational administration and supervision from UT-Martin.

Michael Hickman, Knoxville, will teach social studies and serve as an assistant ninth-grade football coach. He has 12 years experience in Tennessee classrooms. Hickman holds a bachelor's degree in history/political science from UT and a master's degree in curriculum and instruction, also from UT.

Sam Roberts, Knoxville, has taught social studies for 20 years. He holds a bachelor's degree in social science education from UT.

Caitlin Miller, Memphis, will serve as an art intern at ORHS. She holds a bachelor's degree in studio art/art education from UT, and is currently a master's degree student at UT.

- Oak Ridge schools' Alternative Program

William Gouge, Oliver Springs, will teach mathematics. He has 20 years experience as an elementary and secondary education teacher in Tennessee. Gouge holds a bachelor's degree in computer science from Tennessee Tech, a master's degree in curriculum and instruction from UT, and an education specialist degree in administration and supervision from Tennessee Tech.

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