

Ms. Jordan

University of Colorado

Cross Categorical
Teacher



A Learning Experience that Changed Me:

I recently discovered that I have a newly acquired fear of heights - or perhaps it has always been there but it has now surged full force. I was on the ferris wheel with my family and as we neared the top, I could no longer feel the ground beneath me or the bottom of our wheel car! It took barely a second for me to go into full panic hyperventilating mode. Never having been so quickly and physically struck with terror, I lurched to the middle of the wheel car. Quickly, we pressed the red panic button and when we reached the base, the operator stopped the ride and I was able to literally crawl off the ride. Grateful for my feet on the ground, I have realized that there are times that nothing will substitute for pressing the panic button and hitting restart in certain situations yet, there are still many heights to be reached through an assortment of approaches - not just the boxcar to the top, but one step at a time.

My Favorite Book:

The Chosen by Chaim Potok

My Hobbies and Interests:

My hobbies and interests are wide and varied! I love to have time to sit and read but also love to travel and explore. I am born and raised in Denver, but have had the opportunity to explore many different places internationally - but I keep returning to Colorado because it is so wonderful. I enjoy cooking and baking, but I have trouble purchasing all the required ingredients once I hit the grocery store because there are so many fun items to look at! I love the outdoors, physical activity of all kinds including both independent and team sports from walking to soccer to the NBA. Most of all, I love spending time with my family, friends, known community and those I have recently met and I look forward to continuing to be a part of a growing community.

Prior Experience in Education:

Born and raised in Denver, Colorado, I am a former DPS student and graduated from Manual High School in the 1980's. I finished my undergraduate work at CU Boulder and later, my Masters degree at UCD. With this wonderful education experience with me, I traveled to New Zealand to work as a special education elementary school teacher on a small island at the southern end on New Zealand called Stewart Island. From there I continued to seek out international education experience in Israel before returning to Colorado in the early 1990's. Once back in Colorado, I taught and coached Girl's High School Volleyball and Soccer at Denver Academy for several years before moving to the middle school Humanities department at the Rocky Mountain School for Expeditionary Learning. During this period as an experiential educator, I spent time teaching skiing in the beautiful Vail Valley of Colorado and guiding outdoor expeditions in the Rocky Mountains Wilderness. After relocating permanently to Denver and growing my family with my husband Garth and two daughters: Lila and Addie, I finished my Masters program at UCD in Education and Human Development and am looking forward to joining the team at DSST Byers!

Something Super-Unique About Me:

I really enjoy ice cream! I worked at Bonnie Brae Ice Cream in high school and have enjoyed ice cream ever since. My family and I make it a point to visit the different creameries that are popping up in Denver and taste ice creams where ever we travel. Most recently, we have tasted ice creams in Portland, Oregon with unique farm style flavors and New Orleans where the humidity almost melted the ice cream faster than we could eat it. But it's always good to come home to our neighborhood ice cream store where my daughters now work and cool off in the hot summer nights with a waffle cone in hand.

Why I am Excited About Working at DSST:

I am super excited to be working at DSST! Both of my daughters have been students with DSST and it has been an amazing educational and life experience. As a public charter, DSST has created a program and opened it's doors with a mission to honor humanity and to create a pathway towards increased equality, inclusivity, and support for students and families. This journey forwards is guided with strong personal and educational growth towards creating and sustaining a life beyond it's doors with a community of dedicated and inspiring teachers, faculty, staff alongside students and families.