

# AmeriSchools Academy- Yuma South

## 2011-2012 Staff

*It is people who make up a school that make it a special place for children. We would like to introduce you to our instructional team and share something about each of them.*



**Jarrod McDonald**

Mr. McDonald has a variety of teaching experiences. Previously, he was in charge of an English Language Learner (ELL) program at a middle school in Yuma. He earned a Masters degree in the area of Education Administration at Grand Canyon University in 2007. Currently, he is enrolled in a Doctorate program with GCU.

When not teaching, Mr. McDonald likes to travel. And when he can combine traveling with teaching, it's even better. Ten years ago, he spent time in South Korea and taught English there for about a year and a half. It was a lot of fun.

Mr. McDonald looks forward to interacting with all of you during the next school year!

***Mr. McDonald brings a variety of teaching experiences to AmeriSchools. He has been in charge of an ELL(English Language Learner) program and has even taught English in South Korea. He is currently working on his doctorate degree. He looks forward to interacting with his students during the next school year!***



**Dee Fallis**

I went to Northern Arizona University to complete my Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education. The final semester I did my student teaching with Ms. Michelle Davenport, in a first grade classroom. Late into the student teaching process I was able to observe other classes and of those I saw a 4th grade. That was my favorite age group. I am excited to have been offered the 4th level teaching position. My goal for the upcoming year is to work as a team with the parent and student to teach and bring out the best in my students. I look forward to an amazing year ahead with my students!

***Dee Fallis is excited to be teaching fourth level this year. Her goal for the new school year is to work as a team with parents and students to teach and bring out the best in my students. She looks forward to an amazing year ahead with her students.***



### **JoAnne Niel**

I graduated in May 2011 from Northern Arizona University-Yuma Branch Campus.

***How I feel about teaching:*** I feel that the best part about how I am going to teach kindergarten is the fact that children are the future, and I will enjoy teaching them good values. Realize it or not, most of the values we believe in our life are those we had been learning in kindergarten. There are many opportunities that I as a teacher will learn, not only teach. I will learn from my students in how they respond to me, my words, their surrounding and their opinion about life. If kindergarten is the foundation for their education, I believe that a positive experience will encourage a love for learning.

***My goals for the year:*** My strong goals for the year are for students to learn something new every single day they come to school. I enjoy teaching the children to read and understand basic addition and subtraction problems. I know how important it is for my students to have a good grasp on basic phonic skills and sight word knowledge so that they will be successful in first grade.

“Choose a job you love, and you will never have to work a day in your life.”

**-Confucius**

***JoAnne is joining our team as a Readiness teacher. Her goal for the year is for her young students to learn something new every day. She believes Readiness is the foundation for their education and that a positive experience will encourage a love of learning.***



### **Ashley Fox**

My name is Ashley Fox and this is my 5th year here at Amerischools. I have a Bachelors in Elementary Education and am pursuing my Masters in Early Childhood Education to be completed this fall. Early Childhood Education is my passion and I enjoy working hands on with young children.



### **Sara Corona**

This is Sara's third year at AmeriSchools Academy. Sara is a dedicated teacher who works diligently to provide her learners with many hands-on experiences. Ms. Corona adjusts her instruction to meet the needs of her students. She challenges her students to give their very best every day.



**Maria Martinez**

Maria Martinez teaches first level at AmeriSchools. She has a calm demeanor about her and her young learners thrive in the positive environment she provides. She easily identifies her students' strengths and weaknesses and adjusts her instruction to meet their needs.



**Marilyn Gutierrez**

Hello! My name is Marilyn Gutierrez. I have been teaching for 17 years. I am a highly qualified teacher. I have been working on my reading endorsement and believe reading is the building block for everything. I graduated from NAU with a degree in biology and was post-degree certified in education.