

Meet the Candidates - WSTA Officers

Erika Klose

(candidate for President- elect)

Erika Klose is a 7th grade science teacher at Winfield Middle School in Winfield, WV. Erika worked for 6 years as a US Geological Survey Geologist. She has taught for 9 years. Erika coordinates the WV ArcGIS Statewide license for ArcGIS mapping software, and has provided PD for hundreds of WV teachers in teaching with GIS. Erika is passionate about bringing real-world experiences into the science classroom and teaching students to think like scientists. She is a National Board Certified Teacher. Erika graduated from Smith College and has a MS from Lehigh University in Earth Science, as well as a MAT from Marshall University.



Adam Osborne

(candidate for President-elect)

Adam Osborne graduated from Marshall University in 2003 with a Bachelors of Science in Chemistry with an emphasis in Biochemistry and became a teacher through the Transition to Teaching program in 2008. He taught chemistry, physics, and anatomy at Gilmer County High School in Glenville, West Virginia for six years, and he currently teaches chemistry and physical science at Hurricane High School in Hurricane, West Virginia. By incorporating technology and STEM projects into his classroom, Adam has presented at the WVSTA conference numerous times over the years and at the International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE) Conference twice. His students won the WVU Pumpkin Drop Contest in 2011 and placed 15th in the nation at the Team America Rocketry Challenge national competition in 2013. His students have also made several high-altitude observations of near-space using weather balloons, and they presently conduct research with the Pulsar Search Collaboratory at the Green Bank Observatory.



Daniel Hodges

(candidate for Vice President Membership)

Daniel Hodges is the Biology and General Sciences Teacher at Meadow Bridge High School in Fayette County. He has worked for Mercer and McDowell County schools, as well as the WVDE Office of Institutional Education Programs where he taught all sciences for grades six through twelve to students in State custody. He received an A.S. and R.B.A. from Bluefield State College, an A.S. in Medical Laboratory Science from New River C&TC, a Graduate Certification in Education from American Public University, obtained his Master's Degree in Curriculum and Instruction with an emphasis in STEM from Concordia University, is participating in Fairmont State University's ESS Passport program to He serves as his school's technology coordinator where, with the assistance of others and the help of grant funding, he has more than doubled the number of technology devices in his current school. In his spare time, he enjoys photography, working as a backyard mechanic, and completing various woodworking projects in his garage workshop. Currently, he lives in Mercer County.



Jaime Pettit

(candidate for Vice President Membership)

Jaime Pettit is a 6th grade science teacher at Moundsville Middle School in Marshall County. This is her tenth year of teaching and she is currently the only 6th grade science teacher at MMS teaching over 130 students each day. She graduated with her Bachelor of Art's Degree in Elementary Education from West Liberty University in 2006 and graduated from West Virginia University with her Master of Art's degree in Elementary Education in 2008. She also holds her Administration Certification and +45 in addition to her Masters. Jaime is currently working on her Doctor of Education degree in Curriculum and Instruction through Capella University. She has attended and presented at many science workshops and trainings throughout the years on various topics. In addition to her professional career and responsibilities she is married to her high school sweetheart, Nathan and they are the parents of two young children, Maelie and Maddox.



Michele Adams

(candidate for Secretary)

Michele Adams is currently a 6th grade science teachers at Spring Mills Middle School in Berkeley County. She has taught for 25 years and has been a member of the WVSTA for most of her teaching career. She currently serves on the board as the Middle School liaison. Michele has a B.A. in elementary education from Bowling Green State University and an M.A. in secondary science education from West Virginia University. She is certified in elementary education and general science, and she has received National Board Certification in early adolescence science. She received the Presidential Award for Excellence in Math and Science Teaching in 2011.



Jaime Kupfner

(candidate for Secretary)

Jaime is currently a Biology and Environmental Science teacher at Parkersburg South High School. She is very active in her school by participating as Secretary of the Faculty Senate, coaching, adviser for Interact and Sophomore cabinet. She is also on the state Student Council Board as the High School Representative. Jaime has presented at State and National conferences and has been invited to present at the International Conference for Science and Technology. Being chosen to represent WV in the new teacher academy for NSTA is one of her favorite accomplishments in the last few years. Holding both a masters in Science and Technology, she is ready to help WVSTA gain members with the use of technology.

