

# New Faces At ISISD

by Nicole Meek and Desiree Fay



Iraan High School has several new faces this school year in the faculty and administration. One of these new faces is Jim Baum who is our new high school principal. Mr. Baum is from Plains, Tx. (his home town) and attended Texas Tech, Tarleton State, and Sul Ross.

"Fix your divot," is Baum's motto because he says, "When a golf ball strikes the green, it leaves its mark. A gentlemen fixes his divot. That is what I want from our students, leave your mark, but be a gentlemen or lady about it."

This will be Baum's 25th year in education, but his 15th in administration. In the past, Mr. Baum has taught Biology, AP Biology, IPC, Physics, Chemistry, and Teen Leadership, but this year is about learning for him. His inspiration to start his educational teaching journey was the admiration and appreciation he had for his teachers and coaches who helped him believe in himself.

His greatest defining moment is marrying the first girl he ever kissed and raising a family with her.

When asked about his experience with the district so far, Baum answered, "This has been a fantastic experience for me. I am part of a talented team of educators who genuinely want to serve the students of this district. Iraan High School is exactly where I want to be".

"There are so many who have impacted my life...and continue to do so. My dad, Clark Baum, continues to influence me thirty-five years after his death. I still want to honor him," said Baum.



New to the junior high is Kelly Baum who will be teaching 6th, 7th, and 8th grade science.

but in the past she has taught 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th Science, and one awesome year of 1st grade. She has 15 years of teaching experience.

She came from Plains, TX, and went to college at Howard Payne University.

Baum said that her motto would be to smile every day.

The births of her children, Bene (24 years old) and Parker (22 years old), is her greatest defining moment because they have made her a very strong, independent person.

So far her experience with our school, "Has been great. Everyone has been helpful, kind, and encouraging!" -Kelly Baum

When asked who had the greatest impact in her life, she answered, "My mother- raising 6 children on her own; she was an awesome lady and Mr. Baum for encouraging me to get my college degree and to be a better person every day."

"I originally went to college to be a Geologist- At the time Mr. Baum was coaching and our children were little. Found out that geologists travel. I could not- So I decided I would teach the science that I loved so much," is how she answered the question of why she was inspired to be a teacher.



Another one of our new faces is Mrs. Christie Arnold who will be teaching Biology, Chemistry, Physics, and Anatomy. In the past 23 years, Arnold has taught IPC, Chemistry, Biology, Physics, Anatomy, and Environmental Science.

Christie was born and raised in the Oklahoma Panhandle, spent 20 years teaching at Colorado City, and worked the last 3 years at Abilene Wylie. Mrs. Arnold went to college at Okla. Panhandle St. University.

"Wow! What a great place to live and work," Arnold stated about her experience with our district. Her motto for this year is, "Be Brave!"

Her greatest defining moment is watching her 1st grandson, Casein, being born, and the person to have the greatest impact in her life is her grandma Henley who taught her to have faith in God.

"I had wonderful teachers who made such a difference in my life- I felt I needed to pay that back," Mrs. Arnold said about



Kindra Tuttle is one of our new kindergarten teachers this year.

She is from Robert Lee, and went to college at Angelo State to get her Bachelor of Science in Education.

Tuttle has been teaching kindergarten for 4 years.

Kindra's greatest defining moment was getting married and having her daughter.

"One of my high school teachers," she said inspired her to be a teacher, "who showed no matter who or what you were you could achieve anything, and I wanted to be that kind of person for children."

She answered that the people who had the greatest impact in her life were, "My parents because they were and are always there for me to push me through any and everything I do."

Her answer to how her experience with our district so far was, "The community and people have been amazing and welcoming!"



Chad Tuttle is our new Algebra 2 and Geometry teacher. In the 9 years, he has taught Algebra 2 and Calculus.

He is from all over Texas because his dad was a coach so they moved around, but he graduated from Rotan. He went to college at Angelo State University where he received a major in Math and Kinesiology. His dad has had the greatest influence in his life.

"Love it!" was Tuttle's response to how his experience with our district has been.

"My parents- I saw the impact they had on kids; I wanted to do the same," is what inspired him to be a teacher.

"Getting married and having a daughter," has been



In her last year of experience, Audrey Holmes has taught 3rd grade, but now she will be teaching kindergarten.

She is from our very own Sheffield, Tx.

Mrs. Holmes is from Sul Ross State University where she received her Bachelor of Science/ Education.

She said her greatest defining moment as a teacher was graduating from college.

"Everyone is very welcoming and helpful in all ways," she said about her experience with our district.

Her family has had the greatest impact in her life.

When asked about what inspired her to be a teacher she said, "The opportunity to influence and impact children's lives."



Our new English II and IV teacher is Tana DeGraffenreid from Crane. She will also be proctoring two college classes for English 1301.

She graduated from UTPB with a Bachelor's Degree in English and a certification in Education EC-12.

Her motto for this year is "It's going to be a great year!"

In her past 12 years of teaching, she has taught kindergarten, 2nd grade, 6-8 G.T., and 7-8 Language arts.

"I helped my dad study to receive his G.E.D. my senior year and his struggle inspired me to become a teacher."

"My greatest defining moment was being named a Permian Basin Woman of Distinction for my volunteer work in 2004."

"My children have had the greatest impact in my life. The person I am today is because of