

Behind a desk. Filing papers. Taking  
temperatures. Directing traffic.  
Answering the phone. Planning events.  
Taking attendance. Locking the doors.  
Opening the gates. A nurse. An office  
coordinator. A policeman.

Behind a desk.  
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# BEHIND THE SCENES



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Culture

An inside look at the behind-the-scenes work of three Geneva staffers

BY NATHAN ZUNIGA

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## Nurse Brittany Styles

Styles proves she's a pro at multi-tasking as she talks on the phone, takes a student's temperature and answers a question for another child.

**NZ:** What is your job here at Geneva?

**BS:** I am a bachelor's prepared registered nurse. On a daily basis, I am in charge of all the things that come up during the day as far as injuries and sickness. I am also on staff in the event of a medical emergency.

**NZ:** How long have you worked as a nurse?

**BS:** This is my sixth year working at Geneva. Prior to this, I graduated college in 1995. I worked for twelve years as an ICU and trauma ICU registered nurse and primarily worked in hospitals in San Antonio and Dallas, but took a few years off when my youngest was born.

**NZ:** What was the process of becoming a nurse?

**BS:** Two years into my schooling at Texas State, I transferred to UT Health and Science Center and ended up graduating with a bachelor's degree in 1995. As far as Geneva, I had always wanted to work here. I was only qualified for one job, and that was to be a nurse. Actually, it was Mrs. Ryden who said, "Have you ever thought of being the nurse here?" And I remembered being blown away thinking, "Yes! Yes I have, that would be great!" Two weeks later, the nurse who was here resigned her position, so I turned in my application and was hired.

**NZ:** Do you recall any interesting stories regarding your experience as a nurse?

**BS:** I'm not sure if there is one that I could pinpoint from when I worked in the trauma ICU, but I do remember thinking that it was so neat to see patients and their families in the most critical moments and to be able to do things within my skill set to help them through an urgent situation. And while not many emergencies happen here at school, I always feel good about being here in case a child needs help.

**NZ:** Are you happy with your job?

**BS:** The reason I decided to go into nursing is because the sky is the limit. You can travel and work in all different settings. Really, there are many different career paths that you are able to take. As your life changes, your job changes with you. Working as a trauma ICU registered nurse is not conducive to having children, but working as a school nurse definitely provides time for that part of your life. Geneva is such a warm, nurturing environment. Of course, I love being around the kids, but I really enjoy working with everyone here. So yes, I am very happy with my job here at Geneva.



## Officer Roger Baker

Baker directs morning and afternoon on-campus traffic, one of his many jobs as one of Geneva's police officers.

**NZ:** How long have you been a police officer?

**RB:** I have worked as a police officer in the state of Texas for 25 years and in Kendall County for the past 13 years.

**NZ:** What exactly is your job?

**RB:** My job here at Geneva can be summed up in two words. Number one is safety; [the] safety of the students, faculty and parents who come on campus. The second is deterrent. Our presence here is a deterrent for anybody to come on campus and try something. If I am ever in uniform, without fail, every time I walk into a store, I hear a parent say to their child: "You better be nice, or those cops are going to take you." But that is not what we do; that is not our job. For some reason, you guys are uneasy about us. I want a seven year old child to have the confidence to walk up to me, shake my hand and be okay with that.

**NZ:** What is the most groundbreaking story you have experienced?

**RB:** I was on duty one night in Brownfield, Texas, when my corporal stopped the car. He saw a car make a left turn on the wrong lane. It wasn't a

big felony or anything, but he had a feeling that something wasn't right. When I stepped out to talk to the driver, the man took off running. It was when my corporal took off after him that I noticed a blanket in the back seat that started moving. There was a man in the back seat underneath the blanket. His hands and feet were tied and he was bound around. We discovered that the men who were driving the car were two brothers who were on an "across the country" crime spree. Those men were then sentenced to about 70 years in the federal penitentiary. And to this day, I still get a card from that victim, thanking me every year on that anniversary.

**NZ:** Do you have any fears about your job?

**RB:** Any cop that tells you that they are not scared is lying. Law enforcement is 98% boredom and 2% sheer terror. That call you get about a man with a gun or a kid trapped in a flaming car shakes you to your core.

**NZ:** Are you happy with your job?

**RB:** Absolutely. I'm going to keep on doing this as long as the good Lord keeps me here.





## THE Ms. Chelsie Jacobson

A typical day for Jacobson is busier than most. Students visit her desk to make copies, ask questions or even crack jokes.

**NZ:** What is your job here at Geneva?

**CJ:** I think my official title would be the Logic and Rhetoric School coordinator, but really that just means that I do whatever Mr. Shelton and Mr. Desario need.

**NZ:** How long have you worked at Geneva?

**CJ:** I started working here in 2005 as a kindergarten teacher and then moved on to work for Mr. Shelton in 2008. So, I have been working at Geneva for a little more than ten years now.

**NZ:** What was the process of coming to Geneva?

**CJ:** I used to have a friend that knew Mrs. Gombert, who had told her about Geneva. My friend suggested the idea of working at Geneva to me one day but I didn't think much of it. I really wasn't visiting because I wanted a job or anything. She just wanted me to come see it because they had just moved to the current

campus. After that, I knew I needed to work here.

**NZ:** What would be a piece of advice regarding your experience working as a school coordinator?

**CJ:** What I have learned working here is that even the most difficult tasks can be done with a good attitude. You should always make the best out of a difficult time. I never want people to see me in a bad mood and be afraid to approach me.

**NZ:** What is the greatest thing you have realized working here as a school coordinator?

**CJ:** Working in an office means I see and meet a lot of people, including the students. Connecting with you guys has been great. It has also been really cool to see that God has put me here, because this was absolutely never my idea for my life. God has put me here and equipped me for what He has called me to do.