



Kelsey R. Zimmermann
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Kelsey was born and raised in East Aurora. After graduating high school, she began studying education at the State University of New York at Fredonia. In May 2016, Kelsey graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Education.

During her studies at Fredonia, Kelsey did field work in many general education and special education classrooms throughout Western New York. Some schools include Brocton Elementary, Dunkirk City Schools, BOCES at LoGuidice Educational Center, and Silver Creek Elementary.

After graduating Kelsey began her professional career at The Gow School in South Wales, NY. During the five-week Gow School Summer Program she has taught reading and writing to students with dyslexia, ADHD, and other language based disabilities. Kelsey has worked at The Gow School during summer since 2016.

Kelsey has also worked with children as a private tutor; at the Boys and Girls Clubs in East Aurora and Dunkirk; and at Camp Ska-no-ka-san as a camp counselor.

Kelsey started teaching at Mandala in fall 2016. She has taught students in grades K - 8 in all subject areas.

My Philosophy of Education

I believe teaching children is a privilege, which takes great patience and creativity. Coming to school may be the best part, or the worst part of a child's day. When my students walk into the classroom I must engage those who want to learn and encourage those who do not. Building students' knowledge through actively involving them and relating curriculum to their interests are two ways to create a bond with students while ensuring that learning is taking place. Most classroom teachers have less than one year to educate a group of students, at Mandala we are lucky to work with the same children for many years, watching them grow more than just academically. From small successes, such as getting his best grade on a spelling test, to a huge accomplishment like learning to read, the student and teacher will celebrate understanding together. Adjusting instruction for specific needs of individuals, and recognizing and celebrating diversity in the classroom are beliefs I have about educating students of any age. Shaping the minds of the next generation is my job as a teacher. Showing students how to do something or how something works, rather than telling them, will increase their understanding and build new knowledge.