

**Michelle Perry**  
**Interim Assistant Principal**  
**Shapleigh School**

I'm thrilled to be serving as the Interim Assistant Principal for Shapleigh School this year. I'm entering my 12th year as a teacher in the district, but if you add on the 13 years I was a student, that makes 25 years of walking the halls of Kittery Schools! I'm a proud member of the class of '88, just having our 30th reunion last summer. It is such a gift being able to give back to the community that helped mold me into who I am today.

It's funny to think I never actually attended the two schools I have taught in! I attended the old Wentworth Dennett School, followed by Frisbee then onto Traip Academy (when it was three separate buildings and we got soaked on the rainy days!). Upon leaving Traip Academy, I ventured a tad North, not wanting to be too far from my family, and attended the University of Southern Maine, where I graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in Accounting and met my future husband (so I had left college with a degree and a fiance!). Upon graduating college, we married and both immersed ourselves in the restaurant business as general managers while living in York. At age 35, I made the decision to follow my dream of being a teacher. So with an 8 year-old daughter (Kayla May) and a newborn son (Andrew Boyd), I began to attend classes at the University of New England, and received my Master's Degree in Education with a focus in Teaching Methodologies. During that time we moved from York to Eliot, where we resided for 19 years before relocating to South Berwick last year.



When I'm not at school, I spend most of my time with my immediate and extended family. You can typically find us at a sporting event of some kind, or swimming at the beach, pool, or a lake. Our favorite sport is basketball, but we are baseball and football fans as well. We greatly enjoy any activity that keeps us outdoors and look forward to our yearly summer camping traditions. I also love to read, cook, and play with my two dogs and two cats.

My daughter just graduated from the

University of Maine with a degree in Elementary Education. She is spreading her wings and moving down to Boston, where she will be working in the Brookline School District. My son is entering his freshman year at Marshwood High School, where you can find him on the basketball court.



My first two years in Kittery, I served as the K-8 Behavior Strategist, followed by 6 years teaching third grade and then 3 years in fourth. I have treasured every minute of it! My own love of learning is evident in all I do, which helps fuel the students to become life-long learners themselves! I find it so rewarding to engage students in meaningful ways, pushing

them to question and help each child grow in confidence, knowledge and skills surpassing even their own expectations.

I am so very proud to be a part of the Kittery School Department. The commitment the administrators, teachers and community members have for their children is second to none. I may live in South Berwick, but Kittery is my home. How lucky am I to serve in it!

*My fun family at  
Let's Make a Deal  
in California last  
summer!*

