

## April Spotlight on Support Staff:

### Brittney Salzer, Special Education Paraprofessional

*"I believe that education is all about being excited about something. Seeing passion and enthusiasm helps push an educational message." ~Steve Irwin*



Brittney Jo Salzer has been a team member at Clearbrook-Gonvick since March of 2018 and she absolutely loves it! She is married to Brent Salzer and together they have three children...all girls! Kaydance(15) Havin(8) and Nevaeh(6). Brittney is originally from Litchville, North Dakota which is a small rural town of about two hundred people. It is actually quite similar to that of the Clearbrook community. She graduated with a class of a whopping 19!

**What did you do before coming to Clearbrook-Gonvick?** Before coming to CG school I worked with many walks of life... Starting with the elderly working as a RNA then moving on to special needs of all types as a PA to currently working with young children in the special education department.

**What is the best part of your job at Clearbrook-Gonvick?** I would say the best part of my job would have to be when I get to experience seeing a student who once may have struggled in a certain subject and is now starting to thrive. Their potential was always there it just needed a little help being drawn out. I also enjoy my mornings with the younger grades. I believe happy greetings help the days start out so much better. Plus, I am graced with all of their stories, laughs, smiles and hugs.

**What is the biggest challenge of your job?** The biggest challenge I have faced thus far would have to be watching students who do not apply themselves. I wish they would understand that they are so capable!

**If you could have any job in the world - what would it be? Why?** Hmm, that's tough... It is hard to choose just one! I think I would like to be an archaeologist? I find ancient history fascinating! The past is so different from now. We live in a time of fast pace, a time of bigger and better and

unfortunately we don't really take the time any more to look where we have come from, but more so of where we are going.

**What do you do when you are not working at the school?** When I am not at school you can find me spending time with my family and friends, attending my oldest daughters sporting events, Pinteresting, drinking coffee, reading, (gardening, kayaking and fishing in the summer). I am quite boring actually but if you give me a good book and some coffee my heart is content!

**What is something you really enjoy about the spring season?** I love the newness and freshness it brings about. After having what seems to be 13 months of winter when living in MN it's a great reminder how beautiful change can be.

**What are your favorite aspects of the Clearbrook-Gonvick community?** One of my favorite things about the CG community would have to be the wonderful people. It is such a welcoming community! I have lived in Minnesota for about 10 years now and after I started working at the school it was like I finally found my niche and I was home. Thank you.

And now a few words about Brittney from the people that work with her...

*"Brittney has an extremely kind heart and never speaks badly about anyone. She is very good with her students!" "Brittney is always here with a smile on her face. She makes all students feel welcomed and comfortable in our classroom. She builds relationships with students and staff. She's very empathetic to everyone around her!" "Brittney has an excellent work ethic as she is always prompt and going above and beyond what is expected of her in the classroom. She has a gentle way with children as she patiently guides them with their tasks. I appreciate her very much!" "Brittney is awesome to have in the classroom working with students! She is quiet and effective when helping in the room. She always has a positive perspective on student behavior and is very helpful to all of us! She is even requested by students." "We love Brittney! She is so patient and kind to all students. Brittney offers her help to all students. We couldn't do it without her!" "Brittney is truly a kind and caring person. She strives everyday to do her best for the students she works with. Her patience is unending and she is so willing to help however she can. She has a quiet sense of humor that students respond to. A wonderful addition to the Clearbrook-Gonvick school. Thanks for all you do!!"*