

Teacher Biographies

Linda Torrisi began teaching at L.L.L. in September, 1986 succeeding the founding Director, Louise Breen in September, 1988. Prior to 1986, Linda was involved with the Administrative Board as the parent of two L.L.L. students and served as the Chairperson of the Board for two years. She brings to L.L.L. an undergraduate academic background in Fine Arts and Art History. She holds an M.S. in Child Development/Early Childhood Education from Wheelock College and is qualified as Director II/Lead Teacher by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Office of Early Education and Care. She has taught in the classroom with three, four, and five year olds. Currently, Linda teaches in the morning classes for younger children and has school office hours in the afternoon.

Jill Basta came to L.L.L. in March, 1993 as the Lead Teacher in the morning older children's class. Prior to that, she had been involved with the Administrative Board as the parent of two L.L.L. students and had served as the Chairperson for two years. She has a strong academic background in Education and has taught at the preschool, kindergarten, and elementary levels in both private and public schools. She holds an M.Ed. in Early Childhood Education from Smith College and is qualified as *Lead Teacher* by the Office of Early Education and Care. Jill serves as the Assistant Director at L.L.L. and teaches in the morning and afternoon classes for older children.

Carol O'Handley joined the L.L.L. staff in September, 1999 after seventeen years of teaching in the Playschool program at Andover Community Childcare. Carol has a strong undergraduate academic background in Sociology and Education. She holds an M.A. in Special Education from Queens College, CUNY and is qualified as Lead Teacher by the Office of Early Education and Care. Carol teaches in both of the classes for younger children.

Elizabeth Galluzzo began teaching at L.L.L. in September, 1989 in the classes for younger children. She has completed a number of undergraduate courses in Early Childhood Education and is qualified as Lead Teacher by the Office of Early Education and Care. She assumed teaching responsibilities in the afternoon older children's class in September, 1992. Betty now teaches in the morning classes for younger children and the afternoon class.

Dierdre Robb began teaching at L.L.L. in September, 1986 following several years of involvement as a parent of an L.L.L. student. She has completed undergraduate coursework in Early Childhood Development and is qualified as Teacher by the Office of Early Education and Care. Dee teaches in the morning and afternoon classes for older children.

Cheryl McKeough Platt joined the L.L.L. staff in September, 1996 as a teacher in the morning class for older children. Cheryl first came to L.L.L. as a parent of an L.L.L. student. She has an undergraduate degree in Political Science/Economics and has completed undergraduate coursework in Early Childhood Education. Cheryl is qualified as *Teacher* by the Office of Early Education and Care. In addition to morning teaching, Cheryl staffs the Lunch Bunch on Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday.

Sherrie Espy came to L.L.L. in January, 2007 as a substitute teacher in the afternoon class for older children. She joined the staff as a permanent teacher in that class in September, 2007. Sherrie has an undergraduate background in Psychology and holds an M.S.W. from the University of Illinois. Her professional career has included work as an educational consultant for the Professional Center for Child Development and as a professional development coordinator for the Child Care Circuit in Lawrence. She has teaching experience at the preschool level and is qualified as Teacher by the Office of Early Education and Care.

Susan Berube joined the staff at L.L.L. in September, 2007 as an assistant teacher for Lunch Bunch on Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday. Susan was involved with the Administrative Board at L.L.L. as a parent of two L.L.L. students. She has completed an undergraduate degree in English and is looking forward to pursuing graduate coursework in Education.