

POTTSGROVE HR SPOTLIGHT ON...

Maria Benedict

Maria Benedict became a part of the Pottsgrove family in August 2005. She joined us all the way from Kansas which is where she spent the first 30 years of her life. Maria grew up near Wichita, KS; her school mascot was a Swather (a piece of farm machinery). Her first job as a teenager was at a grocery store which she absolutely loved. Once she became a teacher, Maria taught in Kansas for five years before moving to Pennsylvania with her husband. Maria has taught kindergarten at Ringing Rocks for the past 18 years and has coincidentally always been in room 1!



When she's not teaching, Maria spends most of her time being a mom to her 10-year-old son Henry. Her favorite things include dark chocolate, baking, and reading historical fiction books. One of Maria's hidden talents is that she can play the piano very well. Maria has been to almost every state in the U.S. except Hawaii which she dreams of visiting one day. Maria and her family have already booked an Alaskan cruise for 2024. One food that Maria can't live without is Mexican food. She shares that Kansas served a lot of authentic Mexican dishes and she loved trying it all! Maria's hero/mentor is one of her teachers, Mrs. Cribbs. Mrs. Cribbs taught her to be calm even when things are chaotic and to be a good listener.

Maria's Pottsgrove memory that makes her smile the most is retirement parties. Maria is in charge of the entertainment and she does not disappoint. She shares that most retirement parties include made-up songs and skits about the retirees. One piece of advice that Maria gives to her students is, "You can do hard things." Maria wants her students to know that you don't quit when something is hard. Once they persevere through that difficult time, they can celebrate.