



**September 13, 2017**

To: Dr. Riggle, Superintendent  
Board of Education

Fr: Karen Geddeis

Re: Glenbrook Stories - September 25, 2017

## **MEMO**

For our first Glenbrook Stories segment for the 2017-18 school year, we will meet new GBN teacher Kelsey Nichols.

When 28 new teachers joined the Glenbrooks this August, Kelsey embraced a unique journey: it was her first time teaching solely high school students. As the new GBN choir director, Kelsey is teaching four music classes, while also helping out after school with a capella groups and the female show choir. Having started out teaching children as young as six, she is finding high school students refreshing.

“I really like working with challenging music and high-level musicianship,” she said. “You get to start digging beyond the notes and foundations. I love relating to the students; we can joke and have a good time. It’s a lot of fun having that level of maturity in the classroom.”

While Kelsey can say she was “born singing,” she notes that choir has strong benefits for those starting out as teenagers.

“There’s so much that choir can teach,” she said. “Of course we’re teaching singing and music theory, but even deeper than that we are teaching confidence. Singing in front of people takes a lot of courage; it’s about overcoming fear of judgment.”

This story focuses on the themes of creativity, courage, and enjoying the journey of becoming a part of the Glenbrook community.