



Issaquah High Teacher Profile

Bridget Johns (Bri)

Issaquah High Photography Teacher

What is your education background?

I received a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree & Bachelor of Arts degree from Western Kentucky University, and a Masters of Arts Degree in Teaching from University of Louisville.

Did you grow up around Issaquah? If not, where did you grow up and did that help shape the person you are today?

I moved around a lot as a kid, but lived the longest amount of time in and around Nashville, TN. I think moving has given me a unique perspective, as I have had many diverse experiences, and had friendships with people from many different cultures and backgrounds. I have also had to learn at a young age to be flexible, and adapt quickly to change, which definitely has become a useful skill as an adult.

What was your job/career before coming to teach at Issaquah?

Before going into teaching, I was a cook & kitchen supervisor for 15 years, while also going to school and making art on the side.



I would have never thought it at the time, but I now believe the stress of a fast-paced environment, where you are forced to multi-task while meeting the needs of many people at once, has definitely helped prepare me for the classroom.

Along with the ability to be on my feet all day, make quick decisions in the moment, and be prepared & open for whatever the day will bring.

Working in the classroom & working in kitchens both bring a sense of unpredictability that I crave in my daily life. I find it a bit exciting to not know exactly what each day will bring; the unexpected obstacles & successes keep life interesting.



How many years have you been teaching at Issaquah?

This is my 6th year at IHS!

What classes at Issaquah do you teach, and why do you love teaching that subject?

Photography 1, 2, & 3. I love the combination of art & technology that photography activities can bring to students. But mostly, the confidence students gain when it comes to their own creativity. It's awesome seeing how proud a kid can get of a great photo they were able to take!

Are you a club mentor or sport coach?

Photography Club Co-Advisor

Is (was) volunteering part of your life?

I have volunteered at various art camps & Boys & Girls Club in the past. And I am currently a volunteer judge for youth climbing & bouldering competitions in the Seattle Area. Seeing kids succeed at something that brings them joy means a lot to me, so I think that has to be my favorite part of volunteering at these types of events.

What do you like to do outside of school?

Outside of the classroom, I enjoy working on my own photography & art. I also love hiking, rock climbing, travelling, yoga, cooking vegan food, and hanging out on the couch with my husband and our 2 dogs watching a good movie.

Is there anything else special about you that you would like to share?

I am a member of the Mt. Si Artist Guild and will have my photography on display in the Art Gallery of SnoValley this November!

