

# 3 FUN FACTS

- 1 Tinsley wrestled with alligators in Florida as a Christmas gift from her mom.
- 2 She worked a wide range of jobs before landing at Rock Canyon.
- 3 She has her Bachelor's degree in Microbiology.

## from adventures with alligators to teaching about them

Prior to her first year teaching Science, Cydney Tinsley explored the world with many adventures. Given as a Christmas gift by her mother, the teacher had the opportunity to wrestle an alligator.

"It was absolutely terrifying and I would never want to do it again. When we [Cydney and her husband] were given the gift, we just thought that it was going to be more of a photo-op," Tinsley said.

Along with wrestling alligators, the Tinsley worked multiple jobs, expressing her multitude of talents. She worked as a wedding planner and even worked as a graphic designer.

"I've done a little bit of everything and just keep bouncing around. It wasn't until I hit science when I really started to love everything."

"The best part of this job would be getting to see my students' faces when they finally understand how science relates to the real world."

photos courtesy of: cydney tinsley

# CYDNEY TINSLEY



Science teacher Cydney Tinsley wrestles an alligator in Florida as a Christmas gift from her mom. Tinsley now teaches Aquatic Biology, Biology, and Forensics Sciences.



# ANNA TESDAHL | tesdahl's annual wish week shirt decorating



Physics teacher Anna Tesdahl poses with her bedazzled 2019 Wish Week shirt in her classroom April 6. Tesdahl has been decorating shirts for nine years. "Whatever feels right in the moment is how I decorate each shirt," Tesdahl said.

Wish Week came with many traditions, events, and joy spread throughout the whole school.

Some teachers gave students the chance to stall their classes.

Some teachers, like Anna Tesdahl, have their own traditions that they have been doing for nine years.

Tesdahl has bedazzled every single annual wish week t-shirt since 2013. She has each one decorated differently, and saves each shirt in memory of the Wish Week and the wish kid.

"My favorite thing about Wish Week is that the entire student body gets involved,"

Tesdahl said.

Each shirt takes a couple hours at most to finish.

Tesdahl was inspired to have decorated the shirts from a few of her students who did competitive ice skating.

"Some students of mine who did competitive ice skating decorated their shirts like this, and I wanted to know if they could do that to my shirt. Then that kind of started the tradition," Tesdahl said.

"I have a friend who is like a dance mom, so she has all the materials to make the shirts."

Out of all nine shirts decorated, the 2019 shirt is her

favorite one done so far.

"I like this one just because this was the 10 year anniversary one," Tesdahl said.

Tesdahl's shirts are all unique with each year when they were decorated.

"I hope to one day create a quilt out of all of the Wish Week shirts," she said.

story by: a. nandy, photos by: a. nandy

# BRANDON & AMY hommell

## honeymooner hommels set to celebrate a decade of marriage and tell about how it all started



Science teacher Brandon and Social Studies teacher Amy Hommel met each other for the first time in middle school. They will celebrate their 10th anniversary in July 2022, with two kids, Miles and Noah.

"We grew up in middle school and high school together, but the only time I ever remember talking to her was on the sideline of one of my football games because I had a concussion. She was taking pictures for the yearbook and we started talking," Brandon said.

The next time they ran into each other, Brandon was working at Starbucks after high school.

"It was Friday and I was taking some of the softball girls to Starbucks, and he was the barista there. I said, 'oh my gosh, Brandon Hommel,' and he said 'Karen!' Then I was like 'no, Amy,'"

The Hommel's very first date was chaperoning Homecoming at Columbine High School together. They started dating, and eventually got married.

The Hommels explained the conveniences that come with working with each other. "It's nice because we have to coordinate a lot of stuff--having two little boys and trying to keep our lives running smoothly. So, working with each other just makes it easier to communicate. It's nice when you get to work with your best friend," Brandon said.

story by: d. nandy photo courtesy: amy hommell

# DEBORAH & JEFFREY SEAQUIST

1 The Seaquists have followed a tradition of bringing each other gifts through their students, during class, for birthdays, Valentines Day, and anniversaries.

2 The two dated for four months before they got married in 1994.

3 A news broadcast at Xavier High School, Phoenix, where they worked, announced their engagement to the whole school.

4 The choir of Xavier High School sang at the Seaquist's wedding.

5 The Seaquists have been married for twenty-seven years as of last September.

6 A teacher they worked with predicted they would get married on Sept. 24, 1994, and so they did, in order to make the prediction come true.

7 The Seaquists met for the first time at their old school in Arizona, Xavier High School in 1993.

8 The Seaquist's wedding took place at Brophy Chapel, Phoenix, in 1994.

9 Jeffrey proposed to Deborah the same way his father proposed to his mother: with the engagement ring inside a glass of champagne.

10 Jeffrey and Deborah have worked at our school for 15 years.