

New Associate Principals of North

By: Emily Dobberke and Sara Perdue

1 **Steven Leib**, former English teacher and instructional coach at Lincoln High School, joins North for the first year of the associate principal position. When asked how he would describe this new position, he said it had more of an instructional standpoint while partnering with teachers so that “together we can brainstorm different ideas and hopefully make a better experience for students.”

He also said that the thing he loves most about North is the atmosphere that is generated by the students. His lasting impact he wants to make is by giving an answer to every question and getting to know the people that North has to offer. “I think a lot of the times when you go to a new building you just, you have to just really listen and you just have to really put your ears to the ground,” he said about how he is going to get to know people.

Although to most he is just an administrator, he said he really cares about people and is passionate about helping them. He cares deeply about being empathetic towards people, and wants to enhance everyone's educational experience.



2 A former Student Improvement Leader at East High School and a graduate of North, **Steven Schappaugh** is prepared to be back at North with the associate principal position. To Schappaugh, the AP position was created to help teachers with their leadership skills along with instructional focus.

“The operational stuff is still there, you still have to run a building, you still have to make sure the logistics are there, but if that is where I am spending the majority of my time then I am not doing my job well. This new position was about creating an infrastructure so that we are supporting teachers in a more meaningful way,” Schappaugh said.

Even though this is his first year at North, he has always helped the school with the Polar Bear Gala and other sporting activities; he genuinely loves North. “North was incredible to me as a student, I could not imagine a better place for me to grow and develop as a person,” Schappaugh said.

What is the most unique thing about you?

Leib: "Honestly, I just really like to help people... and there is so much that revolves around relationships so that is a key part about being empathetic that I really care about. Unique? I don't know, but it is something I care about deeply."

Schappaugh: When he was co-editor in chief of The Oracle in high school, the day they were printing, he said, "The custodians at night let us back in and we completely changed the front page with pictures of us TPing Graeber's house and the previous adviser's house. He wouldn't know either until after they were printed and here at the school."

Schrup: "My mom owns an optical store, so I have like 15 pairs of glasses."

Masteller: "My husband and I are both teachers. When we graduated from the University of Iowa, we traveled to California. We lived and worked out there. Both of our kids were born in California too."

3 Previous Lincoln instructional coach, **Cait Schrup**, joins North for her first year as an associate principal. She describes the AP position as "supporting the academic side of the work that happens in a class," while "providing professional development for teachers so that they can work toward improving their instructional practices." She includes that the operational things, like fire drills, are still incorporated, it is just not the main focal point.

She is excited for this position because she needs a new challenge and so far, every day she has asked a lot of questions and learns more with every answer. Her favorite thing about North is the people inside and with that she hopes to empower them to make them "realize that they can set high goals and that they can reach those goals." She also wants to be the person that brings joy and happiness to a room through all the unbalanced times of school. She enjoys walking into North and seeing the students smiling in the hallways.



4 After going back to school and getting her masters degree in school leadership and a couple years as an instructional coach, **Jessie Masteller** returns to North to take on the associate principal position. Even though she has been at North for a long time, she still hopes to set a positive reputation about the school.

"You are out and about some day when you're 25 and someone says, 'Hey, where did you go to high school?' and you say 'North,' there are positive connotations with that. You have a good academic experience, you had a good social experience, you feel well rounded and ready to go out and to do what's next," Masteller said.

Another thing she hopes to change is the way students view classrooms and teachers. Just how an AP would advocate for a teacher, Masteller wants students to know they should advocate for themselves. "So, instead of complaining like 'this class is boring,' how could you communicate with your teacher in a respectful, growth mindset way, to make things better for the both of you?"

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