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A LETTER FROM THE EDITOR OF THIS MONTH’S ISSUE: KATIE HATHAWAY

My name is Katie Hathaway, and I am happy to be taking on our December issue. Currently I am teaching four sections of Spanish 2 and one section of AP Spanish Language and Culture. This is my tenth year teaching Spanish, which I can’t believe! I started learning Spanish while I was in elementary school at Latona Escuela, which most of you now know as John Stanford International School. Which means I am a Wallingford native as well!

I studied Spanish in high school and college and always loved it, but it was while I was serving in the Peace Corps in Nicaragua when I truly fell in love with the language, and language learning for that matter. I also have studied Italian and Portuguese and am conversational in both. I lived in Nicaragua from 2007 – 2009. When I came back I knew that I would teach and went to the University of Arizona in Tucson, AZ for the Masters in Education program.

I have been with Lincoln since the beginning as I was part of the design team before Lincoln even opened! I am really invested in this community, and feel proud to be able to contribute and be a part of the World Language team. While this year has been challenging so far, I already can’t wait to eventually meet my students face to face, whether it’s towards the end of this year or next. I know it will be great to finally meet them in person. I also wish everyone a Happy New Year!
New World Language Team Member

We are pleased to announce that Brett Weathers has joined the world language team! Brett comes to us from Eastside Christian in Bellevue where he taught Spanish for the last 22 years. He also has experience teaching at an international school in Cochabamba, Bolivia. We are so grateful to Brett for jumping in to teach with us with mid-year and making it a smooth transition for our students. In his free time Brett enjoys making visual art, playing acoustic guitar, and competing in triathlons.

Las Posadas in Nicaragua

Las Posadas is a Nicaraguan tradition and holiday that takes place during the days leading up to Christmas. The word posada means inn in English. It is a beautiful blend of traditions and festivities. It happens in Mexico as well as other Latin American countries. The Posadas, nine of them, represent the nine days during which the Virgin Mary and Joseph were looking for a place to stay before Jesus was born. The first Posada starts on the 16th of December and the last on ends on the 24th, the day the birth of Jesus is celebrated. During this celebration the priest and other believers accompany disguised children who represent Joseph, Mary and shepherds go from door to door and sing popular folk songs asking for shelter because 'Mary is going to give birth'. From inside the house the children answer with songs denying them entry, as it happened in Bethlehem according to the Bible. Finally, on the ninth day they are granted entry to represent the night that Jesus was born.