

Lorie Hoffman Garnett

Lorie is a 2010 Sierra High School graduate. During her senior year, she was the A.S.B. President and a Track & Field team captain. Lorie was a member of the All-Valley Oak League 4 x 100 relay team that qualified for the Sac-Joaquin Section Masters Meet. She was also one of the top pole-vaulters in the Sac-Joaquin Section.

Lorie attended Utah Valley University as a student from 2010-2012 where she was a pole-vaulter on the UVU Track and Field team. In 2012 she transferred to Brigham Young University and pursued her education in the public relations program. Lorie interned at the Utah County Habitat for Humanity, helping to create a strategic plan to gain more donors. She earned her bachelor's degree in communications with an emphasis in public relations from BYU in 2014.

While a student at BYU, Lorie served as a Sports Information Director for the Women's Cross Country and Track and Field teams. Prior to her experience as an SID, she was a sports reporter for the student newspaper, *The Universe*, covering Track and Field, Swimming and Diving. Lorie was recently hired as the Sports Information Director for Utah Valley University. She is the main contact for all media relations, statistics, and record keeping for Cross Country, Track and Field, and Women's Basketball.

Her former ASB Advisor Amy Gross said, “Lori was such a natural leader that, even though I was her advisor, I learned from watching her direct and inspire her fellow students in Leadership class.”

Frank Guinta

Frank Guinta has significantly contributed to the betterment of Sierra High School for the past twenty years and he has been actively involved in the Manteca Community for over fifty years. Frank has helped, and continues to help Sierra, as a supporter and a fan of our athletic programs, booster club, and Sober Grad.

Beside his significant contributions to Sierra, Frank has helped pioneer Manteca's youth football program and coached countless athletic teams in football, basketball and baseball. Frank has done most of his coaching as an act of community service. He also has served on the boards of non-profit organizations like Agape Village, Manteca Chamber of Commerce, Manteca Parks and Recreation and Give Every Child a Chance.

Frank has always been extremely loyal to the people of the Manteca community. He has sponsored many city league sports teams, has contributed to the high school athletic programs at East Union, Manteca, and Sierra, and has donated to numerous fundraisers. He has hosted fundraisers at his past and present business locations, and he has been very generous to local churches for various events.

Through athletic and business connections, Frank has been teaching a hard work ethic, dedication, team work, integrity, and loyalty to countless young people in Manteca for the past fifty years. Many of the young people he has influenced through work or athletics are present day teachers and coaches of our youth. Frank has created a legacy that Sierra High School and the community of Manteca will reap the benefits of for years to come.

Sierra High School teacher/coach Dan Cunial sums it up best. "Frank was more than just a coach, he taught us the difference between right and wrong and provided a blueprint on how to succeed in life."

Katherine “Bup” Greenwood

Katherine, or “Bup”, as she is affectionately known by the people who worked with her, was an original staff member when Sierra High School opened in 1994. She was an original member of the English Department, eventually serving the school as English Department Head, SBCP Coordinator, BTSA Support Provider, and various other roles during her tenure.

During her years as an Advanced Placement teacher, her students consistently scored well on the AP exams in Language and Literature. In fact, for a decade, her students had the highest pass rate of any school in the Manteca Unified School District. After retiring in 2009, Katherine continued to be a driving force behind success at Sierra. Two years after retiring, she returned to help with the preparation for a full accreditation visit. Tirelessly giving of her time and energy, Katherine led the staff to a successful accreditation.

SHS teacher Dr. Larry Grimes said, “In my early years of teaching here at Sierra, I was profoundly influenced by Katherine’s presence on campus. She was larger than life to me and incorporated everything that I have come to value in an excellent teacher. She was passionate, supportive, rigorous, joyous, and omnipresent. I don’t think I ever saw her without a smile on her face and an encouraging word on her lips. She radiated both care and confidence. I found myself desiring to emulate her.”

Teacher Brent Van Zwaluwenburg added, “She understood that Sierra’s special culture of high student achievement, teacher collaboration, and classroom innovation was important to pass on to upcoming generations of teachers. Katherine’s legacy can be seen in many teachers at Sierra who strive for excellence and high student achievement.”

Nigel Malone

Nigel Malone is a 2008 Sierra High School graduate. While at Sierra, Nigel was an All-Valley Oak League Football and Track & Field athlete. In Track, Nigel was an integral part of the 2008 Valley Oak League championship team, capturing the Sac-Joaquin Section Long Jump championship and earning a 5th place medal at the California State Track & Field Championships.

Football was Nigel's number one sport and after a two-year career at San Francisco City College, where he was part of a Northern California championship team, he enjoyed a full ride scholarship and an All-American career at Kansas State.

In two seasons as a starter at defensive back, he recorded 12 interceptions and was named the Big 12's Co-Defensive Newcomer of the Year by ESPN, a Jim Thorpe Award finalist and he appeared on just about everyone's All-American list. After his senior season, he was honored as Second-team Walter Camp All American, Third-team Associated Press All-American, and he was an Honorable Mention All-American by Sports Illustrated.

After earning his Social Science degree from Kansas State in 2012, Nigel received professional tryouts with the Indianapolis Colts, Pittsburgh Steelers, and Denver Broncos.

Nigel has since returned home to Northern California, where he is now giving back to his community. Nigel is currently working at a group home, Mary's Help, in Vallejo, assisting at-risk youth. He hopes to soon go into the field of education.

Melanie Schoeppe

Melanie graduated with honors as the Salutatorian of the Sierra High School Class of 2003. She attended Cal Berkeley on an academic scholarship, earning a Bachelor of Arts in Social Welfare with a minor in Public Policy in 2007. During her undergrad years at Cal, Melanie worked at the Suitcase Clinic, helping the local homeless community. She also worked in the City of Berkeley Planning Department.

After graduating from Cal, she joined Teach for America and taught 3rd and 5th grade at Greenleaf Elementary School in East Oakland for three years. She was promoted in the Teach for America program, coaching and mentoring teachers during the 2010 school year.

Melanie returned to Cal Berkeley, earning her Master's Degree in Public Policy in 2012. She was hand-picked for a program called New Leaders, and as fate would have it, she was placed back at Greenleaf Elementary School, this time as the Principal. At the age of 28, Melanie had become one of the youngest Principal's in the Oakland Unified School District.

Although Melanie could return to Manteca anytime, she has chosen to stay in Oakland, working in a community that desperately needs a positive role model and energetic leadership. Her passion for education is contagious and no doubt influences her staff and students on a daily basis.

When asked about Sierra, Melanie fondly remembers Mrs. Greenwood as her favorite teacher because she taught her about "feminism." Who would have thought that 10 years ago, both teacher and student would be inducted into the Sierra High School Hall of Fame together? Similar to Katherine's legacy being carried on by Melanie, Melanie's legacy will be carried on by the thousands of staff and students she will impact in her lifetime as an educator.