

Adm **in** seeks to uphold student culture

By Katie Madigan & Isabella Boedeker
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PHOTOS | Isabella Boedeker



**Dr. Sara Delgado,
Principal**

After 12 years of teaching combined with 11 years of administration, principal Dr. Sara Delgado has spent 23 years as an educator. Her love for educating stems from interacting with students first-hand. However, she found through administration that she has a strong impact on teachers and how they foster learning in their classrooms.

Her different experiences in leadership have shaped her passion to positively impact teachers.

“Whenever we have our Monday morning meetings or our staff meetings, and we get to engage in learning as adults, that’s my other favorite part,” Delgado said. “Because I see that the teachers can then take some of the things we do back into the classroom to do with students. And I think that’s what I really enjoy about being a principal is that I get to interact with all of you.”

Administration and teachers help to cultivate student culture, and Delgado hopes to showcase student success and foster more student engagement in this upcoming school year.

“So we, as an admin team, have been trying to think about how to build those positive moments into the culture here at North,” Delgado said. “And so that’s one big thing we’re looking to do. The second big thing that we’ve been discussing a lot is just to make sure we have participation at our extracurriculars.”



**Kevin Shubnell,
Assistant Principal**

From instructing in his third-floor history classroom to coaching on the baseball field, to now holding the position of Assistant Principal for 9th and 11th graders, Kevin Shubnell’s role at North has evolved immensely since he first started at the school six years ago. Initially teaching 7th-grade Ancient Civilizations and social studies to become a United States History, World History and Economics teacher at North, the motivating factor for Shubnell in all of his roles has always been the students.

Because of his experiences at North, Shubnell has been able to guide the new administration team in teaching them the ways of the building.

“The biggest thing for me is to provide a calm for our staff, and then that trickles down to the students as well,” Shubnell said. “If the staff feels, okay, they’ve got a recognizable face, someone they could talk with about how things used to be run. And it helps the new administrators too because they are coming in here going, ‘What’s this.’ And I’m able to help them as well. So it has always been, kind of my personality to remain calm in the face of whatever. But this year especially, I think it’s important so I can provide some calm and some patience too, for the staff and through the students as well.”

Additionally, Shubnell hopes to keep North’s traditions alive and help welcome new practices as well. Though Shubnell admits that much of the school’s culture is determined by the students themselves.

“From things about attendance to consequences to rewards, whatever it might be, the students need to have a strong voice in that,” Shubnell said. “I’d like to think that there are certain core principles and values that we have, respect, kindness, being Norsemen and in all spaces, what it means to be a Norseman and taking care of each other. So those are kind of non-negotiables. But as far as culture, students drive that.”

The daily interactions between students, staff, and the community remind 10th and 12th-grade Assistant Principal Meloney Cargill why she chose to work at North. Though she has not been at North for that long, Cargill is already enthusiastic about meeting new students and staff during the school day.

Coming from a background of 30 years of experience in education as an English, leadership and Japanese teacher, Cargill is now dedicated to learning more about North’s traditions. Whether it be Union decorating or Toga Day, Cargill acknowledges the unity that comes with contributing to the school spirit.

“It’s about rites of passage, going from 9th grade to 10th grade, and up through your senior year, and things that are coming every year, like the shirts and the decorating,” Cargill said. “Some of the traditions a lot of schools do, North does them a little differently, and I’m just looking forward to finding out what some of the other traditions are.”

Despite it still being the start of her position, Cargill recognizes the importance of listening to the North community to help benefit the school’s atmosphere. While some new practices are still on the table, Cargill is hoping to learn more about the community through connecting with different members to best suit the needs and interests of North students.

“So currently, it’s a little complex, because it’s new for me, so I need to see what’s here, and then talk to all the stakeholders —parents and administrators and teachers and students — to kind of figure out if there is a need and how do we go about cultivating that,” Cargill said. “So a lot of people have been approaching us on some things that they’re interested in, and we’re listening and trying to make sure we look at all the avenues and making sure that it’s a benefit for our student body.”



**Meloney Cargill,
Assistant Principal**

"If you're not playing but you want to cheer us on or it's not your season right now, I think you have a role, and I want school to be fun, you know," Ellis said. "Everything is important. You know, academics are important, but I also think that the experience and the socialization of school and being a part of a team and meeting new people, is a pretty important part of growing up and getting those experiences. So, whatever I can do to make the school experience fun for students, I'm going to try to do that."



**James Ellis,
Athletic Director**



*Based on 103 survey results

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