



# ACHIEVEKIDS

## NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2022

### THANKS FOR A VERY SUCCESSFUL ANNUAL CAMPAIGN

On behalf of our team at AchieveKids, I would like to express our deep appreciation and gratitude to our community for the overwhelming success of our annual campaign. It is this broader AchieveKids' community of support that enables us to rise to the challenges we face and continue to support the most complex learners in our community. We exceeded our goals in both dollars raised and number of donors and that is huge. **THANK YOU!**

As we begin 2022, we do so with hope. One of the core skills at AchieveKids is Agility, and I think it is safe to say that these past 2 years have challenged us all in our ability to have agility, or pivot with what seems like rapid changing circumstances. I want to acknowledge how challenging it has been since we have started school in January. With shifting guidance from County Public Health it has been difficult to provide some level of predictability which has always been our goal. My appreciation goes out to our dedicated staff who have displayed an amazing amount of agility to ensure all of our students are continuing to stay engaged as we work through this period.

I want to reinforce that we are here to support our students, families and staff and although disruptions may occur we are here as a support and as a community.

Together We Can Achieve,

Ryan C. Eisenberg  
Executive Director

*Thank you for your support!*

### MEET OUR NEW STAFF!

#### GABRIELLE ACOSTA

Gabrielle Acosta has a BA in psychology and will be graduating with a MA in Special Education: Applied Behavior Analysis in May, 2022. She is pursuing her BCBA certification and has worked in Applied Behavior Analysis for approximately 6 years in school, clinic, and home settings. Gabrielle loves hanging with her dogs whenever she is not at work or doing school work.

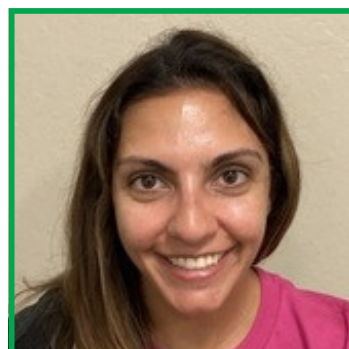


#### LARISA RODRIGUEZ

Larisa Rodriguez is a Behavior Specialist Associate. She has her Masters degree in ABA in Special Education. She worked at an ABA company prior to AchieveKids as well as a para educator at FUSD. Larisa has been working with individuals with disabilities for 10 years now. She enjoys working with this population and helping them grow.

#### ASHLEE THOMPSON

Ashlee Thompson is a Program Counselor/ Teacher Resident. She has her Bachelors in Human Development from Pacific Oaks and is working on her Masters in Special Education. This is her first time in Special Education. She is really excited about this new journey and the new opportunities it has brought.



#### STACEY STURKEN-HUNTER

Stacey Sturken-Hunter is a new Program Counselor in Room 12 in Palo Alto with Mr. Hooper and Mr. Hatch. She is looking forward to this new path/opportunity after being a Radiation Therapist here in the Bay Area for 35 years, working at O'Connor Hospital, Good Samaritan Hospital, and most recently at Stanford Health Care. Thank you all for being so welcoming!

### BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR:

**DONOR APPRECIATION EVENT IN APRIL, 2022  
TO CELEBRATE AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH**

**READY SET ACHIEVE, OUR SECOND ANNUAL WALK A THON,  
COMING IN SPRING, 2022.**

MORE INFORMATION ON SPECIFIC DATES AND TIMES WILL BE AVAILABLE SOON

