



Chanda Oatis

Interim Principal, Alki Elementary School



After graduating from Ingraham High School, Ms. Chanda Oatis attended the University of Washington where she earned a B.A. in English. She has continued her education by receiving both a Masters in Teaching and a Principal Certification from Heritage University, and she has had extensive Readers and Writers Workshop training from Columbia University.

Ms. Oatis began working with children as an early childhood educator at Union Bay Children's Center. She went on to be both a Corrections Education Associate and a grade 6-8 Generalist teacher at John Marshall Alternative School.

Ms. Oatis spent a year as a fifth- grade teaching intern at Greenwood Elementary School, and additionally taught ninth- and 10th-grade Language Arts at Seattle Evening School. In 2005, she joined the staff at Denny International Middle School, where she very successfully served as a principal intern, teacher and house administrator and assistant principal. She has been Denny's assistant principal for five years, and for three of those years has specifically served as the Assistant Principal for Literacy. In that role, she led school-wide literacy reform efforts, including: full implementation of Readers' and Writers' Workshop, professional development, coordination efforts with multiple community-based organizations, and collaborative lesson planning and data analysis with the literacy department.

In spring 2011 Ms. Oatis was selected as the Middle School Assistant Principal of the Year by her Seattle Public Schools colleagues. In September 2011 she was honored as the recipient of the Middle School Assistant Principal of the Year for the State of Washington. She has a deep commitment to social justice and to working collaboratively with staff, families and our community to help every child to excel-- academically and socially.

She is honored and excited to bring her leadership skills to Alki Elementary School as the new Interim Principal.