

Melissa Mase

Almost a decade ago, Melissa learned that Cologne was opening a Charter School with a mission grounded in E.D. Hirsch's work emphasizing the importance of building students' content knowledge and cultural literacy. She only hoped that this is where she could begin her teaching career. As a Kindergarten Teacher at Cologne Academy for seven years and now serving as Academic Specialist for the past year, this goal was realized. Her path to becoming an educator, as well as her interest in E.D. Hirsch's work, began at Hamline University where she attended graduate school and obtained a Master of Arts in Teaching.

Melissa loves all aspects of teaching but her heart is in creating a supportive and caring learning environment where students feel safe to take academic risks. As Cologne Academy's Academic Specialist, every day is an opportunity to carry this out through modeling positive interactions with students and staff. Beyond creating a supportive learning environment, students need to know that we believe in their potential to make academic progress. In her role as Academic Specialist, she is able to support teachers in helping struggling students meet their academic goals.

We are a passionate community of educators who take pride in being innovative, data driven and goal-oriented. Putting student achievement at the forefront of decision making has proven to be very successful for Cologne Academy and our students' achievement. Melissa looks forward to seeing this success foster a competitive atmosphere improving education for students beyond Cologne Academy. This passion to be leaders in education is what fuels her to start the work day.

Born and raised in Carver County, Melissa believes there is no better place to call home. Her home is a small hobby farm outside of Cologne where she spends her leisure time tending to the gardens and chickens with her Husband, two kids, and their dog. She also enjoys camping, reading, cooking and researching innovative ways to provide an outstanding education for our CA learners.