

## *Erin Monteith*

### **Curriculum and Professional Development Lead**

I grew up in a small town in the middle of Minnesota. My family's lineage can be traced back to Sogndal, Norway and Germany. Education has been a passion of mine since I was little. I pursued teaching at Minnesota State University, Mankato. After earning my degree in Communication Arts and Literature with a focus on education, I moved to Petersburg, AK for my first teaching job. Over the past 12 years, I have taught in 8 school districts in 7 states.

During my 10 years of teaching, I have been fortunate to see, experience, and practice a multitude of strategies and programs while working with a wide variety of staff and students. I also pursued my master's degree in Curriculum and Instruction with an Administration endorsement from the University of Wyoming, Laramie. After I earned my master's degree, I began digging deeper into methods that worked with more students than were being presented by textbooks. These experiences propel my work at Goldbelt Heritage Foundation.

My goal is to make education accessible to all students. Students need to have opportunities to demonstrate their knowledge in a way that makes sense to them. This approach has perpetuated my career into focusing on developing curriculum and supporting teachers in this different teaching method. As I continue to do this work, I continue to see opportunities to expand the realm of education to encompass all students in any classroom.