

My name is Nathalie Shultz, and I am so excited to be working with the Gull Lake Early College program! I attended Kalamazoo Public Schools from kindergarten to 12th grade, so I was able to receive the Kalamazoo Promise and attend college for free - such a blessing! I graduated from Western Michigan University in 2016 with a Bachelor of Science in special education (emphasis in learning disabilities and emotional impairments), and minors in math education (K-8) and early childhood special education.

After graduating from WMU I taught in various school districts over the past 7 years, working with students from age 3 all the way up to age 18 in the special education setting. Gull Lake Community Schools is my favorite district that I have worked for: I was a special education teacher at Ryan Intermediate and most recently at Gull Lake High School. I have a passion for supporting diverse learners, and it is a true joy to be back with GLCS in this new role.

I believe that everyone has the right to receive a postsecondary education, whether that be at a community college, four year university, career/technical school, vocational/trade school, or even a combination of these opportunities. I am excited to support our Gull Lake students in finding what postsecondary path is best for them via Early College.

Something I often share with my students is my journey of discovering my diagnosis of Obsessive Compulsive Disorder (OCD) and anxiety back in 2017. Both of these diagnoses have made my journey a struggle at times, but I have learned to face challenges that come my way and view my OCD/anxiety as strengths. I hope to help our students see any challenges they face as opportunities to grow stronger, become self-advocates, witness to others, and persevere along whatever path life may take them.

I have been married to my husband, Tommy, since 2018. We have an amazing son named Gabriel, and we also have two fun-loving dogs (Peanut and Gizmo). I am an athlete by heart with a passion for coaching others and spending time working on my own training (specifically swimming, indoor cycling, and weight training). The great outdoors is my favorite place to be, especially anywhere in Michigan (and most definitely with my family). Finally, you can find me reading children's literature or spiritual books in my spare time.