



## Teacher DOUBLE Feature

**Stacey Verne** loves math. **Jessica Lifshitz** loves literacy. Together, they make up a fifth grade team that covers it all. They are in their fifth year teaching together, swapping students half-way through the day so their fifth graders see Mrs. Lifshitz for Literacy and Miss Verne for Math, Social Studies, and Science. Both teachers say it's an ideal arrangement for them, and in turn, their students.

Watching these two ladies sitting side-by-side eating lunch, talking, and laughing, it's clear they complement one another in many ways. "She keeps us organized," Mrs. Lifshitz says of Miss Verne who quickly answers back, "You're very creative and have so many good resources."

Outside of school, their lives take them in different directions. Miss Verne lives in Chicago's Uptown neighborhood where she enjoys riding her bike and walking her dog, Sadie, to the lake. She grew up in Northbrook and recalls bike riding around town, going to Little Louie's, and attending ski club through the YMCA. While her plans to leave Northbrook didn't take her further than the city, she has traveled all over the world and has been to every continent except Asia and Africa.

Mrs. Lifshitz lives in Skokie with her wife and daughter, 4, and a collection of pets including 2 dogs, 2 cats, a bunny, a bearded dragon, 2 tortoises, and fish. She never had any pets before she met her wife, and now wakes up early to "tend to the farm." She says she comes from a "long line of nerds" and her only hobby is reading. She also spends a lot of time at the park, pool, and beach.

Unfortunately for future Meadowbrook students, this team will break up in 2020 when Miss Verne plans to retire after more than 30 years at the school. Mrs. Lifshitz says she's already looking around for a new partner, but she knows it "won't ever be the same or as easy."

"I'm still retiring," quips Miss Verne with a laugh.

### **Fun Facts about Stacey Verne**

Originally hired to be a Spanish teacher  
Graduated from GBN

Loves to spoil her 13 nieces and nephews who know her as Aunt Stacey

### **Fun Facts about Jessica Lifshitz**

14 years at Meadowbrook

Graduated from Stevenson H.S.

Started teaching first grade and jokes she didn't have the patience for it

*Curious about a teacher or staff member at Meadowbrook? Send a request for someone you would like to see featured to [julieweinberg@me.com](mailto:julieweinberg@me.com).*