Dear Parents and Students,

I hope you are enjoying a wonderful summer! I am thrilled to welcome you to the Marine Biology course for the upcoming academic year.

I'm Dr. Andrea Marconi Nastelli, your course facilitator for 2024-2025. My family and I relocated to Tampa from Northern Virginia 10 years ago. Alongside my husband, John, I am blessed with two children, Noah (13 years old) and Ava (11 years old), who also attend T.E.A.C.H. My academic background includes an undergraduate degree in biology, followed by a Doctorate in Chiropractic with specialization in prenatal, postnatal, and pediatric chiropractic care from the International Chiropractic Pediatric Association (ICPA), where I earned my CACCP certification. For over a decade, I owned and operated a successful holistic practice in Northern Virginia, focusing on serving families and promoting preventative health. Currently, I offer my time to a non-profit organization, while prioritizing time with our young children.

I am honored to embark on this educational journey with your family, blending my clinical experience with the Apologia Advanced Biology curriculum for my third year at T.E.A.C.H. I am particularly enthusiastic about the depth and quality of Apologia's Marine Biology curriculum, having witnessed its richness firsthand last year. Your student will explore a wealth of knowledge.

As we prepare for the year ahead, please consider gathering the following supplies

Course Materials:

- Thin binder OR folder and notebook paper
- Student text: 2nd Edition, Marine Biology Advantage Set.
- Colored pencils, highlights, pencils.

**NOTE: You can order your textbook directly from <u>The HomeSchool Hive in Carrollwood</u> to avoid shipping costs.

During home study days, parents are encouraged to support their child's learning journey, with access to all module exam answer keys in the Solutions and Test book included in your 2nd Edition, Marine Biology Advantage Set. Progress can be tracked through class participation, quarterly review and module tests. Parents are encouraged to review all study guides, on your own questions and module exams assigned. The Student Notebook is consumable, as most work can be completed there. I will check study guides for completion and collect module exams biweekly for grading, as applicable. Please note, as per Florida homeschool statute, while I provide grades, ultimate responsibility for your child's education rests with you, the parent(s). I am contracted solely to facilitate learning, as outlined in our T.E.A.C.H. handbook:

"The parent(s) is in ultimate control of their children's education. In no form is T.E.A.C.H. held accountable for the progress or lack of progress of a student's academics. As the parent, you fully understand that you are responsible for transcripts, grades, and any dynamic of their learning environment. The instructors at T.E.A.C.H. are contracted with the sole responsibility to facilitate learning." -TEACH Student Handbook

To maximize our 60-minute weekly sessions, I aim to create an interactive learning environment that brings each module to life. There will be a lot of material to cover and I have hopes of planning a few interactive field trips to expand the student learning experience. Parental participation will be requested should any field trips transpire. I am here to support student success and encourage you to reach out with any questions or concerns.

Our class meets on Mondays from 10-11 a.m. in room ED2. We will follow the syllabus provided at Open House (and also found on Mellow Yellow Student Portal) throughout the year. I look forward to meeting you and your student at Trinity's open house! We're going to have an amazing year together!

In Health,

Dr. Andrea M. Nastelli