

## ST. MICHAEL Early Elementary School 510 W. Front Street Monroe, MI 48161

## ST. JOHN *Elementary School*521 S. Monroe Street Monroe, MI 48161

ST. MARY *Middle School*151 N. Monroe Street
Monroe, MI 48162

April 24, 2020

Dear MCES Families & Friends,

We write to you today with bittersweet news. Bitter because Mrs. Sheena Zawistowicz has informed us of her intention to retire at the end of this school year, but sweet because Mrs. Zawistowicz has left a tremendous legacy in her seven years leading St. Mary Middle School Campus. After taking the reigns at the beginning of the second year of the MCES Collaboration, she immediately ensured our students were given a top-notch middle school experience: providing them with a diverse range of courses, electives, and activities to enhance their middle school experience; recruiting and hiring many members of the faculty and staff; and setting the middle school on a course for success. Her leadership was enhanced by her undeniable faith, her British wit and wisdom, and her commitment to her lifelong vocation of education. We sincerely thank Sheena for her years of service and commitment to MCES and pray that she is able to enjoy her retirement to the full. Given the unprecedented circumstances that we are now in due to the restrictions in place, we will be in touch with MCES families regarding a plan to recognize Mrs. Zawistowicz at this time of her transition.

As with any time of transition, there is the question of what comes next. As soon as Mrs. Zawistowicz shared her plans with us, we began planning for this change on the MCES Leadership Team. Of course, it was important to explore all possible options. After much prayer, reflection, and discussion of options, we have asked Mr. Kyle Kubik to remain in the role of Executive Principal and assume the principal position at St. Mary Middle School Campus. We believe that this move will help to keep continuity at MCES, while also giving us the opportunity to look at how our school can move forward, especially in light of what we have been learning through this crisis.

Over the last four years, Kyle has transformed many aspects of the St. Michael and St. John campuses, and we believe that he will continually impact the lives of our younger students in his role as Executive Principal. Kyle's experience in and love for the middle school provides a strong foundation of leadership, bringing him back to his roots at the St. Mary campus where he started his teaching career 8 years ago. He will be a great role model as principal for students in this age group. On a practical level, having dual roles at MCES, we feel this change will ease the daily travel between the 3 campuses and maximize his productivity. However, Kyle will discern how to be present at all the campuses on a weekly basis as needed under his Executive Principal role.

This shift will allow us to recruit and hire a dedicated principal for St. Michael and St. John Campuses. This principal will report to Mr. Kubik and work side by side with our Director of

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Early Childhood Education/St. Michael Campus Assistant Principal, Amanda Welton, and St. John Campus Interventionist/Assistant Principal, Karol Applin to fulfill our mission and vision for MCES. We have tasked Mr. Kubik and his team with finding a top-notch pool of candidates to be interviewed and we will keep you informed as the search progresses.

We, as the local pastors, will continue to do everything we can to support the mission and development of MCES and are excited to continue to be on the cutting edge of Catholic School collaboration and continue to evolve as we have for the last 174 years of elementary Catholic education in Monroe. Thank you for your continued support of Monroe Catholic Elementary Schools.

In Christ,

Fr. David Burgard Fr. Phil Ching

St. Mary Parish, Pastor St. Michael the Archangel

Parish, Pastor Pastor Delegate of MCES

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