

Announcement of a New Principal for Saint Elizabeth Parish School

January 9, 2024

Last June, we announced that at the end of the 2023-2024 school year, Dr. Diane Greco will be retiring as our parish school principal after serving as principal for eleven years. All of us are deeply grateful to Dr. Greco for her personal commitment and her dedicated professional service to our parish school families, to the faculty and staff, and to the whole parish community since July of 2013. May she enjoy a healthy and peace-filled retirement in the future!

Throughout the past summer and fall, I convened a *search committee* from the Parish School Board of Limited Jurisdiction (BLJ) to embark on a rigorous search process to identify a new principal for our parish school. The committee was comprised of four board members with expertise in the fields of Catholic education, school administration and human resources, together with the parish business manager and the pastor. The search process was also supported by the Archdiocesan Office of Catholic Education.

Today I am happy to announce that ***Mrs. Kathleen Fitzpatrick*** has been selected as the new principal for Saint Elizabeth Parish School, effective July 1, 2024. I and the search committee are confident that Mrs. Fitzpatrick has the professional experience, personal talent and administrative skills to develop effective collaborative relationships with our staff, our students and their parents; to be a superior academic and instructional leader; and to extend the outstanding legacy of our parish school into the future. I ask all of you to join me in welcoming Mrs. Fitzpatrick to our parish staff and to our parish school this summer.

Mrs. Fitzpatrick graduated with honors from West Philadelphia Catholic High School in Philadelphia, received a B.A. in History (*cum laude*) from Immaculata College and completed an M.A. degree in Secondary Education at Villanova University (also with honors).

She has served in Catholic Education for twenty-four years, including classroom teaching at SS. Clement-Irenaeus School in Philadelphia; at Holy Cross School in Springfield; at St. Cornelius school in Chadds Ford; and most recently at SS. Colman-John Neumann School in Bryn Mawr. She has also served for several years as the principal at Holy Cross School in Springfield.

We look forward to welcoming Kathleen as the fourth principal of our parish school, confident that she will bring her Catholic faith, her personal enthusiasm and professional talents to Saint Elizabeth Parish School and will continue our parish school's commitment to the ongoing faith formation of our students; to the students' excellence in academic achievement; and to an active collaboration between parents and faculty. As principal, Mrs. Fitzpatrick will serve as a key ambassador for the continued growth of our parish school in the years ahead.

Since the opening of the parish school in September of 2006, Saint Elizabeth parish has been blessed with a dedicated group of administrators, teachers and support staff who have provided our students with an excellent Catholic Faith-based academic education. We look forward to continuing this tradition under the leadership of Mrs. Kathleen Fitzpatrick, our new parish school principal.

Fr. Tom Mullin, Pastor