

NEW ADDITIONS TO OUR 2022-23 MIDDLE SCHOOL STAFF

We are delighted to announce the following four additions to our 2022-23 Middle School staff – individuals that have a deep love and appreciation for their Catholic faith – and an equal commitment to uncompromised academic excellence. We are very fortunate.

MS Director – Ms. Audrey Wenner

A native of Rochester, Minnesota, Ms. Wenner earned her BA in Elementary Education from Mankato, and later went on to secure her Masters in Educational Leadership as a full scholar with the University of Notre Dame. She has been teaching English and Religion at St. Francis of Assisi School in Rochester the past nine years, while also serving in various leadership roles throughout (Department Lead, Continuous Improvement Committee, Strategic Planning Committee, Professional Learning Community Lead, etc.). She describes herself as a passionate educational leader who excels in organization, curriculum design, and data-driven decision making. We are delighted to have Ms. Wenner with us beginning July 1st.

MS Mathematics – Mrs. Kathleen (Kati) Diedrick

With a career as a successful biochemical engineer prior to teaching, Mrs. Diedrick brings a wealth of understanding and creativity to her classroom. She has a Bachelor in Chemistry/Biology, in addition to a Masters in Organizational Development from Kean University. She later went on to attain her Masters in Elementary Education from St. Catherine's. For the past 12 years she has been teaching fulltime within Catholic Middle Schools, of more recent as a Math/STEM/Technology teacher at St. John's in Savage. She shared that her passion for the Catholic faith, her family, and her love for helping others understand mathematics are her blessings in life.

MS Science – Ms. Mary Carlson

Originally from Wilmar, Minnesota, Ms. Carlson studied Biology (pre-med), Philosophy and Catholic Studies at the University of St. Thomas. She is completing her Masters in Teaching from the University of Portland in partnership with the University of Notre Dame. She has been teaching Middle School science and religion the past two years in St. Andrew Catholic School in Riverton, Utah as a part of the Pacific Alliance for Catholic Education (PACE) program. She is a young dynamic teacher with a love for middle school students. In her short time at St. Andrew's she has built their science program to align with Next Generation Science Standards, directed their science fair, co-directed their Green Initiative and directed their Catholic School's Week and social media accounts.

MS Communication Skills – Ms. Katie Erickson

Ms. Erickson completed her Bachelor of Arts in both Elementary Education and Catholic Studies and is currently pursuing her Masters in Catholic Studies at the University of St. Thomas. For the past eight years she has been an extremely effective and respected 5th grade teacher at Saint Agnes School in St. Paul, while also assisting their Lower School Director as Lead Teacher through much of this time. She founded and co-directs the Altum Institute for Catholic Teachers, which sponsors regular presentations to further the intellectual and spiritual growth of Catholic teachers in the Archdiocese. Her hope in teaching has always been to inspire young people to embrace the beauty of learning and encounter the love of Jesus Christ.