

Hello St. Joseph School families! I hope that you have had a summer filled with adventure. The start of another school year is only a few weeks away and we are excited to welcome you to everything that the 2022-23 year will unfold for your children and your family.

We have had some personnel changes over the summer and without any further hesitation, I'd like to share those changes with you.

Mr. Tyler Sieh will be joining us as our new middle school Social Studies teacher. Here is a little biography about Mr. Sieh. Please welcome him to our wonderful school community!

*Hello St. Joseph families! My name is Tyler Sieh, and I am from Reville, South Dakota. I come from a family of 5 kids. I graduated from Grant Deuel High school in 2001 and briefly attended Mount Marty university before my deployment to Iraq as a member of the South Dakota National Guard. It was during my deployment that I found my calling as a teacher. I also met the love of my life and future wife Melody. After our unit returned home, I continued my education at South Dakota State University. I majored in History and education while also adding a minor in religious studies. While attending SDSU I also had the opportunity to be a part of the Jackrabbits football team, first as a player and then as a volunteer coach. In 2008 I was married to Melody and in 2010 I graduated from college and welcomed our first child into our home. I took a position to teach at Chamberlain Academy, a privately run school to serve the educational needs of transitional youths. After a few years I wound up back in my hometown and taught for 4 years at Grant Deuel school district. This was a wonderful time in our life as my wife and I welcomed two more children into our house and relished being back home near family. Unfortunately dropping school attendance led to Grant Deuel permanently closing its doors. After a time, my wife received a promotion in the USPS and we moved to our current home in Jordan, MN. We have been here for 3 years and absolutely love it. After spending last year teaching at Gateway STEM Academy in Burnsville, I am ready to continue sharing my passion with the staff and students at St. Josephs. I cannot wait to meet everyone!*

Last spring we had two teachers transition to new parts of their life. Mrs. Metling (3<sup>rd</sup> grade) retired. Mrs. Maciaszek will move from 1<sup>st</sup> grade to 3<sup>rd</sup> grade this year. She will be doing amazing things with our 3<sup>rd</sup> graders. Mrs. Klawitter (Middle School Math) resigned to take care of her family. Mrs. Amy Gallus will be taking over all middle school math classes. Mrs. Gallus is a very dynamic math teacher, and our middle schoolers will be in excellent hands under her tutelage.

Ms. Gelhar will be working in the school full time as our reading specialist. For the past few years, she has been working in the school and the parish. We are glad to have her back working in the school full time as she works with our teachers on enhancing excellence in reading instruction and as she works with students who need a boost in reading instruction.

Mrs. Linda Scholla is joining us full time this year. Linda is a special education teacher from District 110. It is a great blessing and wonderful partnership that we have with the school district that allows us to have her as a full time special ed teacher. For the most part, our students who need special support will be able to stay in the school to receive most of the special services available through the district.

Mr. Andrew Hey, our school and parish counselor, recently received an offer to work with a health service company in the greater Twin Cities area. Although it was a very hard decision for him, he has decided to explore this next step on his professional journey. We are grateful for all of the support that Mr. Hey has given to us over the past few years. We are consulting with Phoenix Counseling to find our next counselor. Please offer a few prayers that we might find the next right person to take care of our counseling services.

Mrs. Jenny Donato has joined our administrative staff. Jenny will be organizing our volunteers and will be focusing on new family enrollment and engagement. Jenny has been an active parent over the past few years, and she will offer many skills to help grow our community excellence. We are super excited to have Jenny on board. She will likely be reaching out to you to find out how you might be able to support the school through some volunteering efforts. If everyone does something, it makes everything easier.

I will continue to teach 8<sup>th</sup> grade faith this year. It is a highlight of my day to be able to teach at least one class and I feel incredibly blessed to be able to do so. Watch out 8<sup>th</sup> graders!

Finally, we are in need of someone to run our After School Saints, Inc. program. Saints, Inc registration is open, but until we hire someone to run the program, we will not be able to offer after school care. If you know someone who has credentials to run an after-school program, please send them my way.

Finally, Value Books will be ready in time for the Carver County Fair next week! This is a major fundraiser for our school, and our goal is to raise \$25,000 through the sale of the Value Books. More info will be coming out soon on these.

That's all for now! We will trickle out bits of information over the next several weeks. Please reach out any time if you have questions.

May God bless your day!

Bruce