

A WARM ST. RITA WELCOME TO OUR NEW TEACHERS and a SINCERE WELCOME BACK TO OUR “VETERANS!”

GRADES 7-8

We are excited to announce our very talented and experienced junior high teachers: **Mrs. Diane Popp** and **Mr. Wayne Schwitz**. Mrs. Popp is a twenty-three year veteran of Catholic schools whose students have been successful not only in the classroom but also in extra-curricular activities. She comes to St. Rita from Mary, Help of Christians School in Fairborn where she had most recently taught a blended seventh-eighth grade class. Mr. Schwitz, an ordained Baptist minister who later converted to Roman Catholicism, comes to us from a wide variety of teaching experiences in Catholic and public schools, elementary and secondary levels. Mr. Schwitz was the founding principal of St. Peter Claver Latin School for Boys in downtown Cincinnati in 2001. Most recently, he spent over a year teaching at a medical institute in the Philippines. Mrs. Popp will be teaching junior high math and science. Mr. Schwitz will be teaching junior high language arts. Each will teach one class of junior high social studies and one class of sixth grade religion.

GRADES 5-6

We are equally excited to announce are very talented and experienced fifth and sixth grade teachers! **Mrs. Patricia Smith** is actually not new at St. Rita School having taught through auxiliary services here for the past several years. A Dayton Public Schools veteran, she will be teaching all fifth and sixth grade language arts. **Mrs. Erin Gwin** comes back home to Dayton from Texas. She has taught the past five years throughout the country and will be teaching all fifth and sixth grade math and science. Along with **Mr. Joe Hand**, who will be teaching all fifth and sixth grade social studies and fifth grade religion, this team started meeting early in the summer. They are diligent and committed to our students and families!

GRADES K-4

No new faces here, but we are so pleased to have all of these excellent teachers back in our building! **Mrs. Mary Ellen Muench** has been at St. Rita School for close to forty years and will again be teaching the blended third-fourth grade class. Starting her second year here and teaching third grade, **Miss Sara Hess** returns having passed her Praxis I this past spring. Congratulations! And in fourth grade, **Mrs. Kristen Phillips**, starts her third year at St. Rita having taught kindergarten her first two years here. **Mrs. Jennifer Hebert** returning for her third year here at St. Rita will again be teaching kindergarten. **Mrs. Colette Trick**, a thirty-plus year veteran of St. Rita School, is teaching first grade. And **Sr. Rosemary Lindemann**, a veteran educator of fifty years, is teaching second grade. These six “tried and true” teachers will build that necessary solid foundation for our primary grades that will insure their future success at St. Rita School and beyond.

SPECIALS

Making us the most well rounded school in town are our specials teachers! **Miss Rachel Begley** returns to St. Rita for her third year as physical education instructor. **Mrs. Cindy Hartnagel** also returns to St. Rita for her third year as computer teacher and technology coordinator. And “new” to us this year, actually making a “return appearance,” is **Miss Jennifer Fields** as our music and art teacher. Miss Fields has taught for over a dozen years in many venues, including band at St. Rita a few years ago through Chaminade Julianne High School’s feeder instrumental music program.