



# St. Anthony of Padua

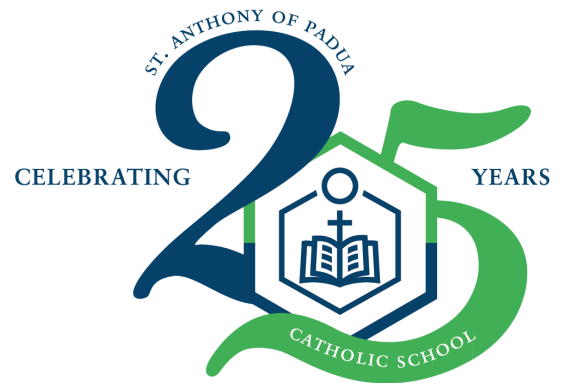
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

*Nurturing Souls. Enriching Minds.*



## Auxiliary Team PACE Team

St. Anthony of Padua Catholic School, in partnership with parents, is focused on the continuous formation of the whole Christian person.



Hello parents and students,

Below you will find some information about how we determine your grade.

Before you read the info below, please remember that grades are simply communication - they are information that will hopefully help you improve and become a better version of yourself.

We strive to give honest feedback and information to students and parents about their performance in our class in hopes that it will help you understand how you're doing and give you some areas that could be improved.

The goal is to produce students who have the skills, knowledge, and confidence they need to be successful in life.

## **The Standards**

This student will be able to:

- 1.demonstrate competence
- 2.demonstrate understanding
- 3.participate regularly
- 4.exhibit responsibility for personal social behavior by showing respect for self and others
- 5.value a challenge, self-expression, and social interaction

# PACE

## Potential Achieved in Catholic Education

### **Heather Blakesley – Learning Advisor/Auxiliary Teacher**

This is my 7th year at St. Anthony of Padua, and I could not be more excited for a new year helping all of our students grow and reach their full potential in the classroom and beyond. As a Catholic school student myself (K-12), and having sent my own children through Catholic schools, I firmly believe in the mission of instilling the faith in our students in every subject every day. I am grateful to be part of a wonderful community of teachers and families who strive to be more like Jesus every day.

### **Derlyn Cayanan – Counselor**

I am so excited to be starting my third year at St. Anthony of Padua Catholic School. Previously, I was a Counselor at a Catholic counseling agency for seven years, and I love working with kids. I received my Bachelor of Arts in Psychology and my Master of Arts in Clinical Mental Health Counseling both from Franciscan University. My husband, Nestor and I have been married for 7 years and we have one son, Jonah and a baby girl, Liliana. My goal is to support your student through my role as a school counselor, to advocate for them in any way they may need me, and to help them to grow through the joys and struggles of the year. Please feel free to contact me via e-mail with any questions or concerns at any time in this coming year.

### **Ellen Pavlich—Elementary Reading/ELA Learning Support Teacher**

I am excited to work with the students at St. Anthony of Padua Catholic School this year. I have been here for 9 years, and our family has been at the parish from the beginning. My youngest 2 children are in college, and my husband and I are excited to welcome 2 granddaughters this year. I am looking forward to living my Catholic faith and serving the students and their families at St. Anthony's this year.

### **Brooke Reyes – Elementary Math Learning Support Teacher**

I was born and raised in Texas, and I am a proud member of the Fightin Texas Aggie class of '05! I am married with three children. I have two girls and a boy. I taught 3rd and 4th grades for ten years in both public and Catholic school systems. I served two years as an instructional coordinator at a Catholic school where I worked with Pre-K through elementary aged students. My biggest belief is that absolutely all children are capable of learning and being successful when given the right opportunities, love and support. All of God's children have strengths and weaknesses. It is our job as educators to help them discover their strengths and use them to support their weaknesses and achieve success!

### **Margaret Blouin – Middle School Learning Support Teacher/Auxiliary Teacher**

Hello and welcome to the 2025-2026 school year! As the Learning Advisor Assistant for middle school at St. Anthony of Padua Catholic School, I am excited to be working with your student. I have been teaching for many years and have been privileged to instruct students who learn in a traditional manner, as well as those who have learning differences.

Originally from Philadelphia, I attended a Catholic elementary and middle school before graduating from a Catholic high school. I received a scholarship for writing from the University of Tampa, where I studied for two years before transferring to New York University, where I graduated with a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree.

It was while living in New Jersey and raising my five children, that I first encountered students with cognitive challenges and found that I had a heart for instructing those students. Several years ago, I moved to the wonderful state of Texas and worked as an adjunct professor at Lone Star College, Tomball, where I had the privilege of teaching students with executive functioning challenges before joining the faculty of St. Anthony of Padua Catholic School in 2018.

I look forward to working with you to ensure that your student grows academically and spiritually.

### **Hailey Beale – Middle School Learning Support Teacher/Auxiliary Teacher**

Hello! This is my second year at St. Anthony of Padua Catholic School. I graduated from Sam Houston State University with a degree in education and then moved into a classroom teaching role in Conroe ISD for 5 years. I believe every student has unique strengths and abilities, and my goal is to help them reach their individual potential by fostering a supportive, and engaging learning environment.

### **Becky Fagan—Math Curriculum Support Teacher**

My name is Mrs. Becky Fagan. This is my 3rd year at St. Anthony of Padua. In my prior 2 years, I taught 5th grade ELA and social studies and 4th grade math and science. This is my 15th year teaching, with experience in all elementary grade levels. I received a bachelor's degree from Saint Francis University and a master's degree from Hood College. I have a son, Leo, who is three. In my free time, I enjoy reading, cooking, baking, and being outside in the pool!

### **Marissa Kaercher – Middle School Learning Support Teacher/Auxiliary Teacher**

My name is Marissa Kaercher. I am excited and blessed to be starting my second year at St. Anthony's. I am a Pittsburgh native, but my husband and I have lived in The Woodlands and attended St. Anthony's for the past 11 years. I graduated from John Carroll University with degrees in history and secondary education. I have two sons who are students here and a daughter at Little Saints Preschool. I look forward to helping students grow in knowledge, confidence, and faith as they journey through this 2025-2026 school year as disciples of Christ.

### **Tammy Meredith-ELA Curriculum Support Teacher**

I'm so excited to join St. Anthony of Padua! I graduated from Stephen F. Austin with a degree in interdisciplinary studies and a specialization in reading. This is my 25th year of teaching. I taught in public school for 11 years before teaching at The John Cooper School for 14 years. I am thrilled to bring my love of learning and teaching to this new role! I have two children, a senior and a 6th grader (who will be attending St. Anthony). My hope for the year is to get to know you all and help your child find success in all of their endeavors.

## **Arlene Failde**

Dear Parents,

Hello! My name is Arlene Failde and I am excited to be teaching middle school Broadcast Media (DNN), Stock Market and Robotics along with Pre-K 4 and Kindergarten technology. Along with teaching, I am the school's Instructional Technologist. This is my 19th year here at St. Anthony of Padua and I feel very blessed to be part of this wonderful school, staff and parish.

I was born in Florida but raised in California and lived there up until 19 years ago when my family and I relocated to The Woodlands. I am married to a wonderful man, Juan, and have three great sons, Justin, 28, Ryan, 25, Nathan, 21. We also have two awesome dogs: Zoey a Lab mix and Lucy a Golden mix.

I graduated from the University of Southern California (Fight On Trojans!) with a degree in Journalism and English. I was a substitute teacher in Temecula, California for eight years.

I look forward to meeting and getting to know you and your children. In middle school Robotics, students will be working with the First Lego League Spike robots, in Broadcast Media, we will continue with our weekly production broadcast of DNN and in Stock Market we will be participating in The Stock Market Game, an education simulation game which teaches students about the stock market, investing and personal finance..

My goals within the classroom are to build a culture of kindness and foster a community of discipleship, with Christ as our model. Students will be expected to follow the school wide discipline plan of respect, responsibility, and safety, found in your family handbook. Each student is a unique gift of God and I expect students to be Christ-like and kind and caring, to be respectful of others, cooperate with each other and be positive for one another. Feel free to contact me via email at any time, [afailde@ap.school](mailto:afailde@ap.school).

I'm looking forward to a great year!

Blessings, Arlene Failde

## **Virginia Johnson**

*Spanish, 1st – 5th / Spanish I and II*

¡Hola! I'm excited to be returning for my fourth year at St Anthony! It's been a joy to watch our students grow in their language skills and cultural understanding over the past few years, and I'm looking forward to another fantastic year of learning and exploration.

Students can expect an engaging mix of speaking, listening, reading, and writing activities—plus a healthy dose of music, games, and cultural traditions from Spanish-speaking countries around the world.

I will also be sponsoring the Spanish Culture Club again this year which will be open to 5th and 6th grade students. We will celebrate the language, customs, and traditions of Spain and Latin America. Students will explore Spanish culture through food, arts and crafts, and entertainment. Throughout the year, we will create crafts like papel picado, piñatas, ojo de Díos, alebrijes, cempasúchil paper flowers and sidewalk alfombras for religious holidays such as Día de la Virgen de Guadalupe, Día de los Muertos, Las Posadas and Semana Santa. We'll also make and sample tasty treats to celebrate different customs and traditions in Spanish-speaking countries. Spanish Culture Club will meet on Mondays from 3:45-4:30 pm, beginning September 15th. Check the newsletter for a registration link!

I'm so grateful to be part of this wonderful school community and can't wait to see what this year brings. ¡Vamos a tener un año increíble!

# Heather Koett

Assistant Athletic Coordinator

Event Coordinator

PE Teacher, K-8 grade

PreK Music and Motor

My name is Heather Koett and here is a little bit about me. In November, I will have been married for thirty-four years to my high school sweetheart. We have two wonderful children, Derek and Ashley. Derek is 31 and a computer programmer. He is married and has a stepdaughter, River, and a little boy, Alexander Fox who is now two and a half years old. He lives in a rural neighborhood in central Texas. He loves woodworking, gardening and taking care of his many chickens. Ashley is 28, is starting a new video programming position with Samsung and lives in New York City. She is enjoying all the perks of living in NYC. When she was in college, she was in a band, completed a mini tour and played at South By Southwest. She recently produced and released a new album. You can search for her music by her name, Ashley Koett. Since both my children have left home, I have plenty of time to do the things I enjoy such as traveling, reading, shopping, and cooking with my husband (we love to try gourmet recipes and use vegetables from our garden). I love watching football, especially Texas Tech (my alma mater), Alabama, Dallas Cowboys, Texans, and the Colorado Buffs. Did I mention that I am a huge football fan? I can't wait to watch football this year.

I have been teaching for 35 years, making my way through Texas in Dallas, Austin and the Woodlands. This will be my 20th year teaching at St. Anthony of Padua. When I first arrived, I began teaching Early Childhood Music and Motor. In the years since, I have expanded my duties to include being the Assistant Athletic Coordinator, teaching PK Music and Motor, Kindergarten through eighth grade PE, starting a running club, being the Angels Sponsor, Event Coordinator and Auxiliary Team Lead. I love being involved in all the fun events that occur at our school.

In my PE classes, I teach my students the tools to learn cooperation, responsibility, compassion, and respect. I focus on sportsmanship and teamwork as they exercise their mind and body. We work on developing and improving our body composition and flexibility as well as getting along with others and learning how to follow the rules of a game.

After school I sponsor a run club, Sacred Soles. This club is open to all students, PK3-8th grade. We meet once a week to set and achieve personal running goals. As an individual and a group, we try to complete a half marathon and or full marathon by the end of the school year, one week at a time. I also sponsor our school cheerleaders, Angels. We strive to spread school spirit throughout the school community.

In all my classes, I strive for students to demonstrate respect, for me and other students, responsibility, for their own actions and words, safety, for themselves and others, and to be Christ-like in their interactions with others in what they do and say. I encourage self-correction and redirection when needed and expect students to follow the Golden rule, "do unto others as you would have them do unto you". I am looking forward to a wonderful year. If you need to contact me for any reason, I can be reached at [hkoett@ap.school](mailto:hkoett@ap.school).

"Joy comes to those who in a sense forget themselves and become totally aware of the other." Mother Teresa

Heather Koett

# **Travis Wallace**

Athletic Director  
Physical Education

Dear St. Anthony Community,

My name is Travis Wallace, and I am honored and excited to step into the role of Athletic Director here at St. Anthony of Padua Catholic School. While this is my first year serving in this position, it marks my fifth year as a proud member of the St. Anthony faculty. I also continue to teach Physical Education to our amazing students in Kindergarten through 8th grade—a role that keeps me moving, sweating, and smiling every single day!

Bringing energy, teamwork, and a love for sports into the lives of our students is something I'm truly passionate about. As an avid sports fan (with a special love for football!), I'm thrilled to be coaching the St. Anthony Dolphin Football Team again this season. I look forward to helping our student-athletes grow not only in skill and strength, but in sportsmanship and spirit as well.

My wife and I have been married for 22 wonderful years, and we've been blessed with three incredible children. We've called The Woodlands home for the past 15 years and absolutely love being part of this vibrant community. It's a true privilege to lead our athletic program, and I'm committed to building a positive, competitive, and faith-filled environment for all our student-athletes. I look forward to a strong season ahead and to working alongside our dedicated coaches, students, and families.

Go Dolphins!

Sincerely,  
Travis Wallace

# **Jenny Lienhard**

K-3 Music, Middle School Choir, Theater Production,  
School Mass Choir, Life Lab, & Guidance

Dear Dolphin Families,

My name is Jenny Lienhard and I'm excited to begin my 14th year as an educator and 4th year as a member of the SAOPCS community! I have been involved in music my whole life, and it's a passion I share with my husband, Tim, and our daughter, Marie, a 5th grader. I have a Bachelor of Music in classical voice from the New England Conservatory of Music and a Master of Music in Music Education from the Boston Conservatory of Music. During graduate school I had the opportunity to teach in Boston Conservatory's innovative music programs for students on the Autism Spectrum and following that I became the lower school music teacher at Shore Country Day School in Beverly, MA. In 2016 our family moved to The Woodlands where I taught in Klein ISD and the John Cooper School.

I believe that every student should have the opportunity to experience joy and success in their day, and my approach to education seeks to affirm how we experience God's truth, goodness, and beauty in music and other creative endeavors. One of my primary goals in the music classroom is to help children find their healthy singing voices. We also dance, compose, improvise, play instruments, and listen and respond to music of many styles.

I look forward to working with your children this year. If you need to contact me for any reason, I can be reached at [jlienhard@ap.school](mailto:jlienhard@ap.school).

Blessings,  
Mrs. Lienhard

## **Joey Scale**

Dear SAOPCS families,

Hi, my name is Joey Scale. I am so very excited and blessed to begin my eighth year here at St. Anthony of Padua as the Instrumental Band Director and the Technology teacher! I am so thrilled to share the love and joy of Christ with your children inside the classroom.

I was born and raised in Wooster, Ohio. I attended Catholic School at St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception Elementary School and Triway High School. I went on to college at Baldwin-Wallace Conservatory of Music, receiving my bachelor's degree. Following that, I received my master's degree from Full Sail University. I have performed music in forty-eight of the fifty states in a variety of bands and ensembles and have been teaching music privately for fifteen years. I have even started and managed my own independent record label.

I am currently a member of the Texas Computer Education Association (TCEA) where I am a certified Campus Technology Specialist. I have been married for almost thirteen years to my beautiful, caring, and loving wife, Tiffney. We have two young sons, Joseph and Oliver, and a young daughter, Lucy.

It is an honor to work at St. Anthony of Padua Catholic School as we guide students in their Catholic faith and encourage them to live as Disciples of Christ. I am looking forward to a great school year full of joy and discipleship! During the first quarter, all my students will first learn to fall in love with music and to use their talents and their abilities for the glory of God. We will be holding many performances throughout the year, so please keep an eye out for those!

My Technology and Coding students will be studying all aspects of technology with various group and individual projects as well as fun, interactive games and activities.

Matthew 18:2-6 2 He called a little child to him, and placed the child among them. 3 And he said: "Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. 4 Therefore, whoever takes the lowly position of this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. 5 And whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me.

With utmost sincerity and joy,  
Joey Scale

## **Ms. McDowell**

Intro to Theatre  
Production  
Speech  
Middle School Choir  
4th & 5th Grade Choir  
PK & Kindergarten World Language

Welcome to St. Anthony of Padua's Theatre Program!

I am excited to be your young scholar's guide this year, helping them navigate the wild, thrilling, life-changing world of theatre and performance. My hope, prayer, and intention are that students will acquire techniques that will help them grow as actors, help them gain confidence, help them hone their communication skills, and that all this will translate to real-world abilities like public speaking, team building, problem-solving, job interviewing, and so much more; all while having fun in a safe, loving environment.

Since 2012, I have been a show coordinator, teacher, camp counselor, assistant director, and director, and worn many other hats with Christian Youth Theatre Houston. Within the past decade, I have also been a stage manager, assistant director, director, marketing director, and even the board president of The Players Theatre Company in Conroe.

In addition to quite a few years of recent theatre experience, I studied mass communications and English in college, and have done what feels like almost every kind of job-from working in radio to starting and co-running a public school-related daycare to managing a restaurant to teaching middle school and high school English.

My goal is to support your student in every way I can with Christ-centered love to make this a successful school year, to equip them with the tools to communicate better, and to help them be well-prepared for their future.

Please let me know if you have any questions and feel free to contact me via e-mail at any time this year.

God bless,  
Ms. McDowell  
rmcdowell@ap.school

Whatever you do, do it wholeheartedly, as if you were doing it for the Lord and not for others ~Colossians 3:24~



## Debbie Morgan

Welcome to St. Anthony of Padua Catholic School. My name is Debbie Morgan and this is my fifth year teaching at St. Anthony of Padua Catholic School. Previously, I was the librarian at an area Catholic school. My family and I live in The Woodlands. Katie, my oldest daughter, graduated from St. Anthony of Padua. My youngest daughter, Camilla, will be a sophomore in high school. We spend most of our spare time at the pool, the beach, traveling, and visiting with family. I am so excited to be part of such an amazing team!

I am part of the Auxiliary staff and am the library manager for the school. I will be teaching middle school electives including: Yearbook, Technology, and Digital Media.

Our Yearbook class will be very busy creating our yearbook, "The Paduan Pride." We will start out with learning about how to create a theme. We will also learn different photography techniques, and will be taking pictures throughout the school year. Then we will be working on editing and revising our pictures. We will then discuss the elements of layout and collage design. These skills will help us make the best yearbook St. Anthony of Padua Catholic School has ever seen. Our Technology class will start out learning about Digital Citizenship. In Tech 1 the students will be working with Google Suite including Slides, Sheets, Docs. Students will create some fun projects! Our Digital Media class will engage student learning with hands-on projects and "real world" activities. It prepares students for the emerging digital world.

I feel so very blessed to share my passions for God, learning, and teaching with every student I work with. I am here to teach the students to be Disciples of Christ, and to live their faith respectfully and reverently. My goal for all my students is to teach them the importance of respect in all aspects of life. I hope for all students in our learning community to give God their personal best in all they do.

If you ever have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at 281-296-0300. You can also reach me by e-mail at: [dmorgan@staopcs.org](mailto:dmorgan@staopcs.org). Working together, we can make this the best year yet!

Regards,

Debbie Morgan  
Library Instructional Technology Educator and Middle School Electives Teacher

## Email Directory:

- Beale, Hailey (hbeale@ap.school)
- Blakesley, Heather (hblakesley@ap.school)
- Blouin, Margaret (mblouin@ap.school)
- Cayanan, Derlyn (dcayanan@ap.school)
- Failde, Arlene (afailde@ap.school)
- Johnson, Virginia (vjohnson@ap.school)
- Kaercher, Marissa (mkaercher@ap.school)
- Koett, Heather (hkoett@ap.school)
- Lienhard, Jenny (jlienhard@ap.school)
- McDowell, Rebecca (rmcdowell@ap.school)
- Morgan, Debbie (dmorgan@ap.school)
- Pavlich, Ellen (epavlich@ap.school)
- Reyes, Brooke (breyes@ap.school)
- Scale, Joey (jscale@ap.school)



**St. Anthony of Padua**  
CATHOLIC SCHOOL  
*Nurturing Souls. Enriching Minds.*