



Valerie Petrillo, Middle School Science Teacher

Ms. Petrillo joins the faculty at Saint Rose of Lima School as the 6-7-8th grade Science teacher with 27 years of experience. She began her career in parochial schools and then taught 7th grade science in both Portland and West Hartford, CT public schools. After raising children, Ms. Petrillo returned to the Hartford Diocese because she missed the family and faith based atmosphere that only Catholic schools offer. "I am so excited to be part of the St. Rose family! Everyone has been so welcoming. I can't wait to meet the students and look forward to the year ahead!"



Patricia Vertucci, Middle School ELA Teacher

Ms. Vertucci is a NYS Certified teacher for ELA in grades 5 through 12, with a Bachelors degree from St. John's University in Pre-Law with a minor in English and a Master's in Education from Mercy College. In her free time time, Ms. Vertucci loves to cook, read and hang out with her nieces and nephews. She is an avid sports fan. "I am eager to meet everyone and look forward to a wonderful school year: I am really excited to join the St. Rose community in celebrating it's 60th anniversary."



John Moulder, Athletic Director

Mr. Moulder is a parent of 3 St. Rose School Alumni, Brianne (2010), Jack (2013) and Aidan (2015). He has been HSA President and School Advisory Board Chairman. Through the years he also coached basketball and baseball teams at St. Rose School and Newtown Parks and Recreation. Based on his experiences with his own children in the world of sports, Mr. Moulder and his wife Laura wrote a book, *Good News for Young Athletes*, to help families navigate the world of sports from a faith perspective. He has run Spirit and Skills Sports clinics and spoken to parents of young athletes at various times. Mr. Moulder is an active member of St. Rose Parish and the Knights of Columbus. He understands the history of St. Rose School and believes in its bright future. He is looking forward to bringing his knowledge of youth sports and faith in God to the Athletic program.



Pamela Zmek, Third Grade Teacher

With a B.A. in Psychology, and M.S. in Elementary Education and a Post B.A. Certificate in Legal Studies, Ms. Zmek comes to St. Rose with a wealth of experience. In fact, she was a long term sub and Pre-School-2nd grade Spanish teacher and Curriculum Development specialist at St. Rose School in 2006-2007. Ms. Zmek was most recently the Fourth Grade teacher at Our Lady of Fatima in Wilton, CT and has been a Curriculum Specialist for the Diocese of Bridgeport for many years. Her daughter Emily is a graduate of St. Rose School with high marks for the education she received here. Feeling blessed to be back in our halls, Ms. Zmek is looking forward to meeting her Third Grade class and embarking on a wonderful new year of learning.

OTHER STAFF NEWS

We are pleased to announce that Mrs. Mary Jo Bokuniewicz has agreed to take on an additional and very important role at St. Rose School – ***Dean of Student Life***. This position will enrich our students lives in many essential ways and will be discussed in detail at the Home & School Association meeting on September 13th. In no way will this role affect Mrs. B's primary commitment as the Fourth Grade teacher. All Student Life matters will be addressed around her classroom schedule. We are blessed with Mrs. B's 21 years of experience at and deep love of of St. Rose School.

An active search is underway for a School Guidance counselor. We recognize this to be a vital position and plan to have a qualified person in place by the end of September.