New board appointed for Pittsburgh-East Region

A 15-person Board of Directors has been named to lead the Pittsburgh-East Regional Catholic Elementary Schools (PERCES) as part of the Diocese of Pittsburgh’s ongoing effort to ensure families have access to Catholic schools that are academically excellent, spiritually vibrant and financially sustainable.

Representing each of the parish groupings within the Pittsburgh-East region, the board will transition from an advisory group to a governing body providing oversight. Currently, parish schools in the Pittsburgh-East region are run by priest-administrators.

The new directors (and parishes represented):

- Reverend Lawrence Adams (Word of God / St. Maurice / Madonna del Castello / Good Shepherd)
- Reverend Frank D. Almade (St. Colman / St. John Fisher / St. Jude the Apostle)
- Janet R. Ciramella, Ph.D. (St. Raphael / Sacred Heart)
- Reverend Christopher D. Donley, STL (St. Mary of Mercy / St. Benedict the Moor / Epiphany / St. Patrick-St. Stanislaus)
- Reverend John B. Lendvai, STB (Our Lady of the Most Blessed Sacrament / St. Alphonsus / Holy Family / Holy Martyrs / St. Joseph / Our Lady of Victory)
- James V. Maher, Jr., Ph.D. (St. Bede / St. Charles Lwanga / St. James)
- Mrs. Mary-Peg Miller (St. Maximilian Kolbe / Resurrection / St. Rita / St. Therese of Lisieux)
- Reverend Terrence P. O’Connor, M.Div., JD (St. Patrick / St. Angela Merici / St. Robert Bellarmine / Corpus Christi)
- Reverend Kevin G. Poecking (St. Joseph / St. John the Baptist / St. Irenaeus / St. Januarius / Our Lady of Joy)
- Ms. Lisa J. Sciullo, Esq. (Immaculate Heart of Mary / St. Maria Goretti / Our Lady of the Angels)
- Lawrence E. Scott (Transfiguration / St. Victor)
- Thomas Smith (St. Agnes / Christ the Light of the World / Holy Trinity / St. Joseph)
- Very Reverend Kris D. Stubna, STD (St. Paul Cathedral / St. Regis / St. Rosalia / St. Stephen)
- Reverend Thomas A. Wagner, M.Div. (St. Mark / St. Michael / Queen of the Rosary)

Following the lead of the North Hills region, effective July 1 the schools will become part of Pittsburgh-East Regional Catholic Schools, Inc., a new 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation with a two-tiered structure comprised of a Member Board that includes Bishop David Zubik, and the Board of Directors.

Directors will appoint a regional administrator who will manage the daily operation of the Catholic elementary schools in the region and who will, in turn, hire a business manager to supervise the schools’ finances.

In parishes with schools that are facing challenges with enrollment and finances, pastor-administrators are working with the regional vicar, Schools Office staff and parish advisory councils to determine
whether a request to close or merge a school is appropriate. Pastor-administrators will continue to oversee their parish school until the transition to the new governing board in July.

Regionalization is intended to help reinforce Catholic schools’ identity and mission, reallocate resources to enhance academic quality, stabilize enrollment and enable greater collaboration in curriculum, technology, professional development, athletics and fundraising.

Please continue to pray for the success of this important initiative and for all who work on behalf of Catholic education in our diocese.

Catholic elementary schools in the Pittsburgh-East region:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>St. Agnes, West Mifflin</th>
<th>Mary of Nazareth, White Oak</th>
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<tr>
<td>St. Bede, Point Breeze</td>
<td>St. John the Baptist, Plum</td>
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<td>Divine Mercy Academy, Monroeville</td>
<td>Our Lady of the Most Blessed Sacrament,</td>
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<td>Natrona Heights</td>
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<td>East Catholic, Forest Hills</td>
<td>St. Raphael, Morningside</td>
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<td>St. Maria Goretti, Bloomfield/Friendship/Garfield</td>
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