



AVE MARIA ACADEMY

CATHOLIC VALUES • ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

Ave Maria Academy Families,

Over the past two months, the phrases I have heard most often have been, “What do you need?” and “How can I help?” This comes from everywhere, the Dioceses, our Parishes, my (truly unsung) professional office staff, our teachers, our (generous) benefactors, but most often, you.

Think about that. We are the wedding of four schools, with deep histories and strong feelings attached, and then you throw in a global pandemic.

Our teachers started arriving in their classrooms today. For me, it was like that first robin of spring. They were excited to meet in person. They are decorating your children’s classrooms. We are so blessed. There is so much collective experience.

There is also uncertainty. I think about how to keep our children’s hands away from their eyes, noses and mouths, when adults have trouble doing so (I use gloves, which reminds me not to do it). Thinking about our teacher’s and staff’s vast experience, I also think about the number of years tied to that experience, a range I share, where possible outcomes can be less kind.

“Change is the only constant in life.” (Heraclitus) We are all looking for particular answers or a guarantee of outcomes, knowing that neither are in the cards. We’ve seen school and athletic programs move from adamant to speculative to resigned. Another quote, which I have adopted, comes from Teddy Roosevelt, “Do what you can, with what you have, where you are,” and so we do.

I have been meeting with our Religious, who lead the two parishes tied to our campuses, Reverend Mark Eckman, of Saint Thomas More and Reverend Brian Welding, of Saint Michael the Archangel. They have both been very enthusiastic in their support of Ave Maria Academy.

I have been weighing the potential for a Before and After School/Extended Day Program. We are currently unable to do this due to CDC Requirements (placing, what would be a very limited group of students, from multiple grades, in a classroom/room which would then be immediately utilized by other students, without a proper cleaning), which would not make it practical.

Ave Maria Academy’s Parent Teacher Guild (“PTG”) is sponsoring a movie night this Saturday, August 15th, at 7:30 PM, at the Bethel Park Campus’ Athletic Field (I’ll be the one in the mask and gloves).

Lynne

Mrs. Lynne Lynch
Principal
Ave Maria Academy