



# Visitation School

## 2019-2020 New Faculty/Staff Announcements



We are pleased to announce that **Steve Dornbach** is returning to Visitation after spending a year in Bulgaria. Steve was a part of our Middle School team in 2017-2018 and is now joining the US English department. He has over 29 years of experience in education, a B.A. in English from St. John's University and a master's degree in Teaching from the University of St. Thomas.



We welcome **Katie Bernabei Fenlon '98** to the Upper School where she will teach Physical Education and Health. Katie has a BS in Psychology and Family Studies from the University of St. Thomas and has earned her Doctor of Physical Therapy from St. Catherine University. She has directed Visitation's summer basketball camps since 2017, holds positions as a Facilitator for Top 20 Training, and is a pediatric physical therapist for Children's Hospitals and Clinics of Minnesota.



**Colleen Hansen** joins our community in the new Archivist role focused on the care of monastery artifacts and the important work of preserving our Sisters' history. Colleen comes to us from the Stillwater Public Library and has held positions as a Historian/Archivist for the Minneapolis Golf Club and the Andersen Library at the University of Minnesota. Colleen has a bachelor's degree in History and English from the University of Wisconsin - Madison and a master's degree in Library and Information Services from St. Catherine University.



**Johanna Huang** joins our World Language department as a Chinese teacher. She most recently taught Kindergarten at Jie Ming Mandarin Immersion Academy in St. Paul. Johanna has a B.A. in English Language and Literature from the Shanghai International Studies University and an M.A. in Teaching from Hamline University.



**Stephanie Laurey** joins Visitation as the new Dining Room Coordinator. She has a bachelor's degree in English with a minor in psychology from the College of William and Mary, a master's degree in English Literature from the University of Virginia and is currently working on a K-8 education master's with an emphasis in math at St. Catherine University. Stephanie most recently taught middle school math at Nativity of Our Lord Catholic School in St. Paul.



We welcome **Caroline Little** as the new MS Science teacher. Caroline has over 18 years of teaching experience, most recently at Saint Thomas Academy. She has a bachelor's degree in French and Philosophy from the University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point and a master's degree in French Instruction from St. Mary's University. Caroline recently received a STEM Graduate Certificate in Engineering Education from the University of St. Thomas.



**Melissa Karlovich Murray '03** is returning to Visitation after spending the last few years raising her young children and is joining the Upper School mathematics department. Melissa taught US Science at Vis from 2009 - 2014, has a bachelor's degree in engineering and physics from Washington University in St. Louis, and earned a master's degree in secondary education from the University of Minnesota.



**Erin Nemetz** joins us as the new Lower School Director. Erin comes to us from St. Ambrose of Woodbury where she was most recently the Assistant Principal for the past five years and prior to that taught in the lower school for six years. She has a B.S. in Elementary Education from St. Catherine University, a master's degree in Reading Instruction and an Education Specialist (Ed.S) degree both from the University of St. Thomas.



**Alice Tassart** joins our World Language department as a French teacher. Alice comes to us with 12 years of teaching experience, most recently at the International School of Minnesota where she taught French to students in grades K-12. She holds a bachelor's in English Language with a minor in French Teaching from the Université d'Artois Arras in France.



We welcome **Aaron Zilka** as the new Lower School Physical Education Teacher. Aaron is a graduate of Concordia University with a bachelor's degree in Health and Physical Education. He most recently taught at Central High School in St. Paul and Gethsemane Lutheran School in Maplewood.

### **Other faculty/staff announcements**

- **Jennifer Stevens** will join us this fall as a long-term substitute for music in the Lower School covering for Rachel Hansell while she is on parental leave. She is a graduate of Nebraska Wesleyan University with a bachelor's degree in Music Education.
- In addition to responsibilities in the Lower School, **Sue Bryniarski** will join the Early Learning Center team and work with childcare during the afternoons.
- As previously announced, **Zindy Mooney** will fill the new Dean of Students role for the Middle School. Zindy brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to this position.
- After many years with the counseling team, **Jeanne Doyle** will be moving to a new role in the Salesian Studies office. We will be contracting with the Phoenix Group this year for additional counseling support.
- The Advancement office has been restructured to allow for more dedicated focus in the areas of development, community engagement, communications, marketing and enrollment. A search is in process for the new position of Director of Development & Community Engagement. **Cecilia Petschel** is the new Director of Communications & Marketing.