



**Welcome Parents/Guardians/Friends to
*Back to School Night 2018***

Armand Lamberti, Principal
2018-19 School Year

*Thank
You!*

Special Thanks Continued

Special thanks to:

Betty Speronza - Administrative Assistant

Dali Santiago - Business Manager

Jose Valestegui - Maintenance

...for all your help in getting the school year ready to go...



**Thank
You!!!**



New Staff Introductions

Mrs. Amanda Bower – Kindergarten Teacher

Mrs. Mary Harrington – 3rd Grade Teacher

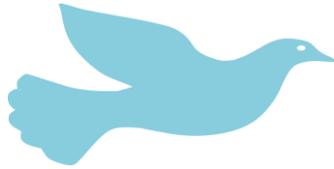
Mrs. Brielle Janota – 5th Grade Teacher

Mr. Alexander Ferenc - Computers



We welcome the new teachers to the fine Holy Spirit School staff.

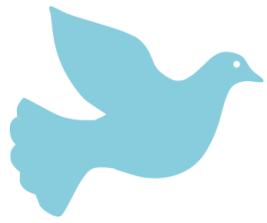




About the Principal

Product of Catholic School Education: Queen of Peace (Grades 7-12)

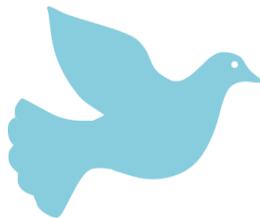
- B.A. Applied Music: William Paterson University
- M.A. Educational Administration: William Paterson University
- Doctoral Studies: Seton Hall University – Currently a Doctoral Candidate
- 26 Years Public School Service – 23 as an Administrator: Building Principal/Central Office Director
- In my 12th Year of Service in Catholic School Education – 5 as a Principal
- Adjunct Professor at Union County College
- New Principal Mentor for the NJPSA/FEA – State of NJ Department of Education



My Educational Philosophy

It has irked me throughout my career that, when asking a potential teacher/administrator candidate to express her/his educational philosophy, they far too often embark upon a discourse which details tenants of practice, not an overarching statement of philosophy. That lengthy introductory sentence said, my educational philosophy - my overarching belief that drives my practice - is encompassed in four words: *all children can learn*. This overarching belief system compels me to provide school leadership that inspires the school community in a holistic way. Teachers/staff must flourish in an educational environment that: motivates them to develop and grow professionally; fosters collegiality - not just grade by grade - but school-wide; welcomes, values and appreciates their input; inspires trust in the Principal (and in one another). The school community at large (especially parents/guardians) must: be made to feel that they are a vital/integral part of the school; be kept informed of the academic progress of their children; be kept up-to-date with school news relating to events and day-to-day operations; feel that that the school is a place where they are welcome, and a place where the administrator will listen to and work with them for the benefit of the students served.

Most importantly, the students must be: provided with a positive/affirmative learning climate conducive to their success - academically, socially, emotionally and spiritually; provided excellence in delivery of curriculum and instruction in all subject areas (including differentiated instruction to meet the needs of all student learning styles); offered opportunities to be creative, think critically, and work cooperatively with others. I have always purported that a stellar school enkindles in students a desire to be lifelong learners and - as adults - productive/active citizens in their communities. Further, it is important that I - as Principal - work closely with the pastor, other clergy, the School Advisory Board, the Home-School Association, and other parish entities to ensure that the school sustains and grows relative to faith community, financial status, student enrollment, and academic success.



My Educational Philosophy Continued...

My guiding philosophy - *all children can learn* - leads me in all realms of professional practice at Holy Spirit School. I strive daily to provide solid educational, financial, public relations, community, and spiritual leadership at Holy Spirit School.

-- Armand Lamberti

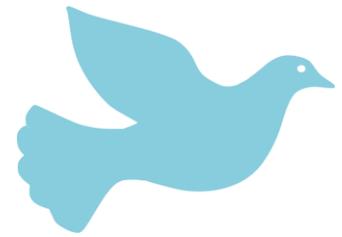


Our Mission

As Christian educators, the mission of Holy Spirit School is to be an example of Christ for others so that they may grow in His love, wisdom and strength. Through our words, deeds and prayer life, we strive to create a climate where Christian values permeate and unify all areas of learning -- academic, social, physical and spiritual. Thus, each person in our care can be nurtured to attain his/her potential within an atmosphere of commitment to others.

We serve God by witness to his teachings. We serve our community and neighboring communities by offering a Christ-centered education. We serve our faith community - for by strengthening and nurturing its members - we nurture and strengthen the whole Church.

Our Philosophy



We at Holy Spirit School recognize that our school is an integral part of the faith community of Holy Spirit Parish. Therefore, our goals reflect the faith commitment of this parish. **We are Christ-centered and proclaim a three-fold purpose: *message* in spreading the Good News through daily living, *mission* in helping build a community of faith, and *service* with Christ-like love to all people. Our strength is based in the belief in the resurrection of Jesus and an overwhelming awareness of God's mercy. We seek to encourage our students to grow as dynamic Christians who think and act in accordance with the teachings of Jesus and are a living presence of Christ. We affirm religious values as a vital part of the curriculum.**

We recognize the need for each child to develop his or her own spirituality and enjoy their relationship with God and their fellow man. Our aim is to instill a sensitivity and tolerance for our diverse population. We strive to attain a strong sense of community and we work together to form the body of Christ. Our commitment to actively serve others is founded in the words of Jesus – **WHATSOEVER YOU DO FOR THE LEAST OF MY PEOPLE THAT YOU DO UNTO ME.**



Our Philosophy Continued...

We aim to prepare citizens with a moral conscience to fulfill responsible roles within the family, church and society. We aim to create a positive and healthy self-image for each student. While students build academic skills, they also gain other important competencies including critical thinking, research, and problem solving. Our purpose of education is not only to instruct, but also to allow the students to assimilate and apply as much learning as possible.

Since we are becoming a technology-based society, it is essential for the school to enable the children to function in such a world. It is our goal to assist the students in responding to and incorporating these technological advancements in a manner befitting their Christian teachings. These values are as important as the mastery of basic skills.

We recognize the importance of the parent as the primary educator of the child and believe it is vital to maintain harmonious and open channels of communication between home and school. The faculty at Holy Spirit, both individually and as a group, seeks to create a caring atmosphere of love, trust, understanding and respect.



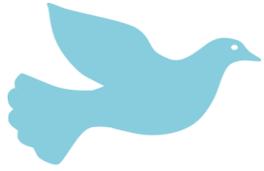
Goals 2017-18 Accomplished/Ongoing

- ✓ Establishing various means of communication with the school & parish community: students, parents/guardians, staff
- ✓ Ongoing upgrade of Technology at HSS
- ✓ Continuing Development of PLCs (Professional Learning Communities)
- ✓ Continuing Development of a comprehensive, fair and effective student discipline plan
- ✓ A new all-call PA system installed
- ✓ A new front door camera and monitor installed
- ✓ Awarded a \$5,000 grant for STEM

Goals 2017-18 Ongoing



- ✓ Continuing to ensure office, business, and staff operations are functioning effectively to ensure thoroughness and efficiency in day-to-day/overall school function
- ✓ Through expanding staff knowledge of the Danielson Teacher Evaluation Model; and through the collaborative sharing of effective pedagogical practices and strategies that excellence in the delivery of curriculum and instruction is a modus operandi.
- ✓ Ensure that – by our interactions with others; by our delivery of religious education curriculum and instruction; by the professionalism and role modelship we demonstrate; and by the welcoming and positive climate that must permeate Holy Spirit School – we as a staff truly bring Christ to others and thus ensure that we all grow in our faith.
- ✓ Work with the school community to increase the safety of all during student drop-off and pick-up times.



Proposed Goals 2018-19

- **Continue to build on the ongoing goals set in 2017-18**
- **Formation of clubs (after and before school – e.g. the afterschool instrumental program)**
- **Solidify the communication between the school and parents/guardians**
- **Replacing obsolescent technology...ongoing...**
- **STEM initiative**
- **Building on staff professional development opportunities**
- **PA access for the Pre-K & K classrooms housed in the Early Childhood Center**
- **For increased security during lockdowns, new blinds or shades for the classrooms**



Expectations Staff & Parents

Staff stands apprised of my expectations as per discussion at our staff meetings. The specifics are internal; thus, not advertised here. But please know, there are expectations I have for staff as well as for myself.

Parent/Guardian Expectations: Please,

- Be partners with us in the education of your child(ren)
- Be role models in the faith for your child(ren)
- If you have a question or concern relative to your child, please bring this to your child's teacher. Rest assured, the teacher will apprise me of the matter; and, of course, if Principal attention is required, I will be there.
- Bring the good news about our school to others who are not enrolled. Your word of mouth communication about Holy Spirit School is a valuable (and appreciated) marketing tool.



Bell Schedule

Student Arrival Begins at 8:00 a.m.

8:20-8:30 a.m.	Homeroom
8:30-9:10 a.m.	Period 1
9:10-9:50 a.m.	Period 2
9:50-10:30 a.m.	Period 3
10:30-11:10 a.m.	Period 4
11:10-11:50 a.m.	Period 5
11:50 a.m.-12:30 p.m.	Period 6 (5, 6, 7 & 8 LUNCH) (Pre-K/K LUNCH)
12:30-1:10 p.m.	Period 7 (1, 2, 3 & 4 LUNCH)
1:10-1:50 p.m.	Period 8
1:50-2:30 p.m.	Period 9
2:30-2:40 p.m.	Homeroom/Dismissal





Security and Fire Drills

The school will hold two (2) drills monthly:

- 1 Fire Drill
- 1 “Other” Drill (e.g. Lockdown, Shelter in Place/Secure Your Students, Evacuation)
- Drills will be in coordination with the PD, FD, and for Evacuation Drills, Livingston School





Holy Spirit School Staff

Our Teachers:

Pre-K (4): Mrs. Patricia Antunes

Kindergarten: Mrs. Amanda Bower

Grade 1: Mrs. Lisa Cepeda

Grade 2: Ms. Kaitlin Muglia





Holy Spirit School Staff

Our Teachers:

Grade 3: Mrs. Mary Harrington

Grade 4: Mrs. Tara Pisano

Grade 5: Mrs. Brielle Janota





Holy Spirit School Staff

Our Teachers:

Grade 6 (6-8 Social Studies & Religion): Mr. Paul Hirsch

Grade 7 (6-8 Math & Science): Mr. Marc D'Antonio

Grade 8 (6-8 ELA, & Spanish): Mrs. Maria Alvarado





Holy Spirit School Staff

Arts and Specials:

Technology Integration Specialist: Mr. Paul Hirsch

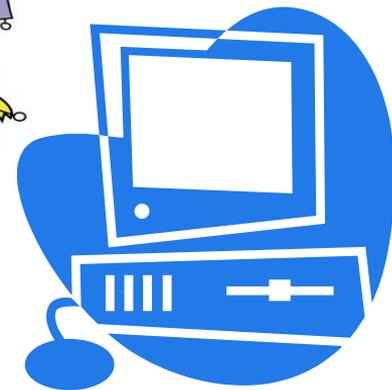
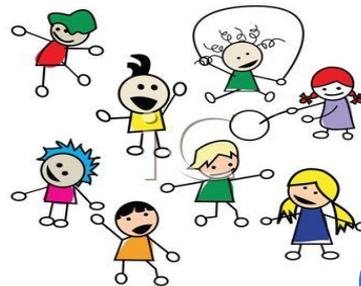
Computers: Mr. Alexander Ferenc

Music: Mr. Allen Jarvis

Art: Mrs. Rupal Patel

Physical Education/AD: Mrs. Mary Pat Mercurio

Literacy Room: Mrs. Terri Bockkopf





Holy Spirit School Staff

Instructional Support:

Preschool Aide: Mrs. Lupe Conforti

Compensatory & Supplemental Education: Ms. Kim Hayden





Holy Spirit School Staff

Administration

Principal: Mr. Armand Lamberti

Administrative Assistant: Mrs. Elizabeth (Betty) Speronza

Business Manager: Mrs. Dali Santiago

Nurse: Mrs. Mary Kemps

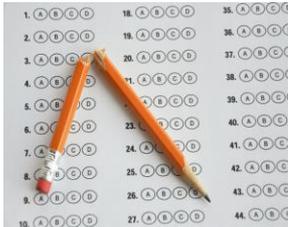
Lunch Coordinator: Mrs. Zulema Pissano



First Year of IOWA Testing Spring 2018



No IOWA comparisons for Holy Spirit School students grades 2 through 8 for the IOWA nationally norm-referenced standardized assessment exist as Spring 2018 marked the first time this test was administered Archdiocesan-wide. As a school – ELA and Math assessed – HSS 2nd through 8th graders attained a complete composite whole school score of 56% in National Percentile Rank.



HSS IOWA CORE COMPOSITE SCORES

Math: HSS National Percentile Rank – 51

ELA: HSS National Percentile Rank – 61

Science/Social Studies (combined): HSS National Percentile Rank – 55

Based on interpretation of the National Percentile Rank (all areas tested factored), HSS – in the first year of IOWA testing implementation – scored in the higher middle of the average range as a school 56 (55.6). The middle average range percentile is 40-59.

We strive to raise the bar going forward.

CONTACT INFORMATION



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Union, NJ 07083



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Betty Speronza, Administrative Assistant

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School Phone: (908) 687-8415

School Fax: (908) 687-3996

We Need Your Accurate Contact Information!

Please be sure that – when you sign in at your child’s teacher’s classroom tonight, you must provide us with your accurate contact information. We need:



- Your name/your child’s name
 - Your email address
 - Your cell phone number



We will be linking all parents/guardians onto our HSS *Remind* app. Once linked in, you will receive text messages pertaining to school announcements, inclement weather alerts, etc.

Visit the HSS Website Regularly!



[holyspiritunionnj.org](http://www.holyspiritunionnj.org)

School news, announcements, teacher webpages, and general information pertaining to Holy Spirit School can be accessed at our website. I continue to encourage you to visit the Holy Spirit School website at www.holyspiritunionnj.org regularly. You can even follow us on Facebook.





BE SMART. USE SMART.

Please use the SMART tuition payment system! The Archdiocesan Schools Office directs that schools must have parents using the SMART tuition payment system. If you are not using SMART and are unsure of the “how to”, please contact Mrs. Speronza.

We appreciate your cooperation with this, and we thank you for paying your tuition in timely fashion.





Thank You!

Thank you for attending Back to School Night 2018

Please pray for the Holy Spirit School staff and me as we shall keep you and the children we serve in our prayers.

God Bless!

