

Dear SMCS students, staff, families, and community,

It is an honor to serve as the new SMCS elementary principal. St. Gabriel, St. Margaret Mary, and St. Mary schools are full of abundant faith and rich traditions that I am honored to be a part of. I look forward to getting to know all of you in the near future and to learn the intricacies of what makes this such a joyful, vibrant community as I integrate into becoming a member of the school family.

I'd like to share a little bit about myself with all of you. I have been a Spanish teacher in grades K-12 for the past 21 years. I earned my undergraduate degree in Spanish and Bilingual Education from the University of Wisconsin, Whitewater and my master's degree in Spanish Language and Literature through the University of Salamanca, Spain. Most recently, I have pursued my Educational Administration degree through the University of Wisconsin, Superior. One thing I am quite proud of is the fact that I recently became a first-time author, publishing a book on education, entitled Set Them Up for Success. My husband and I have two teenage boys who bring us much joy. Both of my children went through Scouts with St. Margaret Mary School and are now Eagle Scouts. My youngest son enjoys playing lacrosse and my oldest son will be heading off to college at UW-Stout in the fall. We are members of St. Bernard Parish in Appleton where we are active in discipleship and evangelization. My hobbies include bicycling, reading, and praying.

As principal, I am committed to furthering SMCS's mission of providing a place where *students discover and develop their God-given talents and experience success through learning, faith, and service*. I believe that we are all continually on this very same journey throughout our entire lives and it is through this process that we grow closer to becoming who God truly created us to be. I am excited to have the opportunity to bring my experience and gifts to the SMCS community as we open ourselves to the workings of the Holy Spirit to make SMCS the best it can be.

Peace, Joy, and Blessings,

Anna Cihlar