



Dear Queen of Angels Families,

Hello! I hope this email finds you all healthy, well, and enjoying these warm summer days.

I'd like to take this opportunity to "formally" introduce myself. For those of you who have not had the opportunity to read Dr. Marsteller's communication, my name is Jennifer Filak and I have been blessed to be appointed as principal at Queen of Angels. I return to this wonderful community after 14 years at The Campus Laboratory School of Carlow University, where I was recently Assistant Head of School for 5 years. Before that appointment, I taught First Grade and Pre-Kindergarten at the CLS. I began my career, however, at Queen of Angels in 1999 when Sister Grace Hartzog hired me to teach First Grade. My years at Q of A not only helped form me as an educator, but they were blessings for me personally as I was able to form bonds with students and families that have stayed with me to this day. I don't need to tell you just how special our School community is. I am honored to be welcomed back.

We are at an important crossroad at Queen of Angels, with many exciting opportunities ahead, the biggest being the St. Pope John Paul II Tuition Opportunity Partnership. TOP will help to make Catholic education more accessible to children and families in our region, an important piece to growing our enrollment and our School community. You can learn more about TOP's possible benefits to existing families by visiting our School website or the official Diocesan site

<https://ww.dioceseofgreensburg.org/schools/Pages/Become-a-Top-Student.aspx>.

We are also in an unprecedented time as we all continue to deal with COVID-19 and the changes to our everyday lives that can, at times, feel overwhelming and unsettling. As a parent of an eleven-year old, I know how challenging remote learning was for families this past Spring. As we plan for the future, we appreciate and will rely upon the information you provided in this Spring's remote learning survey, along with feedback from faculty and staff.

I will also be assembling a Pandemic Team, representative of all members of our School community, to help address the various needs that we are facing in the reopening of our School this Fall. The Office of Catholic Schools will be releasing their Safety Plan for schools shortly and that will be the foundation of our School's response plan. Please know that we are all working very hard to make that sure you, your children, your families, and our faculty and staff are safe. As soon as I have any information to share, I will do so.

Our school calendar for the 2020-2021 school is also being finalized. I am hoping to have it approved and ready to send out to you by the end of next week. Please keep an eye out for it!

You will learn many things about me as we get to know one another, but one thing I want you to know now is how much I value communication. I believe it's the cornerstone of any relationship. To that end, I pledge to you that I will communicate frequently and openly as we grow and move forward together. My door is always open, please know that. I am happy to speak with you any time; please do not hesitate to call or email me. I will also be sharing information and news about our School via weekly messages and updates so be on the lookout!

Thank you so much for all of the warm welcome messages and notes I've received from many of you. I look forward to meeting each of you in person very, very soon.

Many blessings,
Jennifer Filak