



## St. Celestine School

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### Technology – YEAR 2017-2018

**Maureen Murphy** - *Teacher*

I've been a member of St. Celestine's Parish for over 30 years. You may have seen me singing at mass either alone or with my four daughters. My husband, Jim, grew up in the parish and attended St. Celestine School along with his 8 brothers and sisters. We have three grandsons and our first granddaughter! Our family is truly blessed.

This is my 14th year teaching technology at St. Celestine. My educational technology background goes back over 20 years as I began my career in a school media center where I taught computer skills on a Macintosh computer running DOS. From there I became the tech support person for my school and the member of a team of tech specialists for the district I worked at. Aside from my responsibilities to the building I was assigned to, I was also responsible for professional development for the administrators and teachers. I worked as a technology integration specialist alongside classroom teachers to assist and coach them in the use of technology with their students. I maintained and updated my building's server and computer network along with several labs and traveling laptop carts and printers. This included upgrading, selecting, and installing software.

Today at St. Celestine School I am proud to say that we are a 1:1 school where our kindergarteners through third graders all have an iPad to use as their own throughout the school year. Third grade students work with both iPads and are introduced to Chromebooks. Our fourth through eighth grade students have Chromebooks for their individual use. This initiative has taken several years to fully implement and is forever expanding and changing. Along with the classroom teachers, I am continually working to coordinate the setup, use, and integration of the wireless devices into our curriculum.

I am a Dominican University Blended Learning Fellow. As a fellow I have continued to learn what best practices are for the use of technology within our school with teachers and students as well. Last year I was asked to facilitate the 2016-17 class of fellows. It was a wonderful opportunity and, as always, lifelong learning continues on.

As an educational technologist, I believe technologies can benefit our society and our children; however, I cannot lose sight of its effect on our daily lives. As we and our children grow in our use of the technologies that are continually introduced to us including social media, my goal is to teach our students and remind us as adults to be ethical digital users who follow our Catholic beliefs.