YEAR 2023-2024

Cindy Gallagher - Technology Director

I am excited and grateful for the opportunity to be in my 3rd year as Technology Director for our school. I am looking forward to working with administrators, faculty, and students integrating technology into our curriculum.

This is my nineteenth year teaching. My husband, Kevin has been a member of the St.Celestine community all his life, while I have been part of the St. Celestine family since our marriage in 1988. We have three children, all of which graduated from St. Celestine School and went on to Catholic high schools and Catholic Universities.

I earned my Bachelor's degree in Business from NIU and my Master's degree in Teaching at Dominican University. A few years ago, I returned to Dominican on an Archdiocese Scholarship for my second Master's degree with a concentration in Educational Technology. I currently hold license endorsements in Elementary Education, Language Arts, Business, Marketing, Management, Economics, and recently added my Technology Specialist endorsement. I am a Dominican University Blended Learning Fellow, Google Level 1 Certified Educator, and a Hapara Champion Educator.

I have taught Kindergarten, 1st grade, and 3 grade before moving into the Technology position. While teaching 3rd grade I implemented the first successful "flipped classroom" for math instruction. There is definitely an advantage to having teaching experience to be able to integrate technology that supports teachers and develops critical digital literacy skills for our students.

We are proud of our 1:1 technology program in which our kindergarten through first grade students all have an iPad to use as their own throughout the school year. Our second through eighth grade students have Chromebooks with access to many Google apps which are integrated into the curriculum. We continue to expand this program to keep up with advances in technology.

My goals for this year are to 1) leverage our technology program toward mastery of learning goals for our students, 2) develop and promote digital literacy and computer science as a foundational skill, 3) develop a 21st century skillset (collaboration, creativity, communication, critical thinking, and computational thinking) through the introduction of technology tools and collaborative maker projects, and 4) promote responsible digital citizenship.

The joy in teaching is watching students excited and engaged in learning while taking ownership of their learning!

One of my favorite quotes is…

"There are no secrets to success. It is the result of preparation, hard work, and learning from failure." – Colin Powell.