



May 29, 2008

Dear Parents and Guardians,

It is my honor to announce that veteran educator and administrator Dr. Carol Conway-Gerhardt has been selected as the first president of the newly formed Catholic school system for the Greater Green Bay Area. She will begin her duties on July 1, 2008.

Dr. Conway-Gerhardt's many years of experience make for an impressive résumé. For three decades, she taught secondary grade levels in the Sheboygan area. In the mid-1990s, Dr. Conway-Gerhardt served as the Director of Instruction for 3,600 students in South Milwaukee and then as the Administrator of the Weyauwega-Fremont school district from 1999-2002. For the last six years she has been the agency administrator of Cooperative Educational Service Agency 7 (CESA 7), which serves 37 school districts, in Northeastern Wisconsin.

Equally important to Dr. Conway-Gerhardt's professional experience is her commitment to our Catholic faith. As a member of St. Raphael the Archangel Parish in Oshkosh, she has been an active lector, communion minister and volunteer for special events. When her family belonged to St. Dominic Parish in Sheboygan, she served as the associate chair of the Parish Council and president of the St. Dominic School Board.

The decision to hire Dr. Conway-Gerhardt comes after a three-month nationwide search conducted by a 9-member committee. Its members were two priests, two members of the Diocesan Board of Education, three Diocesan staff, and two principals. The original slate of candidates consisted of seven people who participated in phone interviews. The field was then narrowed to four, who were interviewed in person. The two finalists underwent another round of interviews and met our principals and pastors in person. Finally, the school system's Board of Directors, which includes the pastors from our 23 Green Bay area parishes, made the final selection last Thursday.

As Dr. Conway-Gerhardt assumes her new duties and I step aside, please know that she will continue to develop the partnerships with the Board of Directors, Board of Trustees (to be convened), principals, school staff, diocesan staff and you. Together, we will build on the excellent Catholic education tradition in the Greater Green Bay Area. Our goal is to have the new school system fully operational by the 2012-2013 school year. For 2008-2009 very little, if any, change will be evident to you. Dr. Conway-Gerhardt's immense leadership experience and knowledge of curriculum, personnel, professional development, budgets, grant writing, planning and best practices will be instrumental at each step along the way.

As happy as I am to welcome her, know that she is inspired to be with us. Early in the process, Dr. Conway-Gerhardt mentioned that her Catholic faith is her greatest joy and being able to share it with our school community will be her honor. Please join me in welcoming her!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark Salisbury". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Mark Salisbury
Superintendent of Schools
Diocese of Green Bay