# 26 Reasons for Choosing Elk County Catholic High School



### "<u>The Members of the Faculty</u>"

The following pages include the credentials and awards (or honors) of the teachers of Elk County Catholic High School.

They are very active in the classrooms and also with numerous extracurricular activities.

## They are proud to share their backgrounds and accomplishments!

Most of the ECC teachers have been nominated for the "Who's Who Among America's Teachers" one or more times. Instead of being redundant throughout the staff biographies, an asterisk\* before each recipient's name was used to indicate this award.





Before coming to ECC, **\*Mrs. Laura Anderson** earned a B.S. in Biology, Chemistry, and Secondary Education from Carlow University and an M.S. in Public Management from Carnegie Mellon University. Mrs. Anderson first used her qualifications to act as a Clinical Chemistry Supervisor for UPMC while also serving as an Adjunct Professor for the University of Pittsburgh. Mrs. Anderson also retains her certification with the American Society of Clinical Pathologists and is certified by the College Board to teach AP Biology and AP Environmental Science. She has been teaching science and anatomy classes for the past

thirteen years while also keeping very involved with extracurricular activities. She serves as Department Chair for the Science Department, advisor for the ECC yearbook, Student Council, Envirothon, Wetlands and Watershed Club, and SADD. Recently, the National Biotechnology Teacher Leader Program selected her as one of the top 100 Biology teachers in the nation. She has also received the honor of being chosen as Walmart's Teacher of the Year!

\*Mr. Anthony Breindel began his teaching career at the former Queen of the World Elementary School for four years and then moved to ECC where he has been teaching a combination of social studies, health, and physical education for fifteen years. He currently serves as the Department Chair for both of these departments. Mr. Breindel received a B.S. in Education/Social Studies from Clarion University and a Certificate for Religious Education from Gannon. In addition to his classes, Mr. Breindel stays very involved as advisor of the sophomore class and the Outdoor Club and as an assistant for intramural basketball. For



the past twenty-one years, Mr. Breindel has held the position of head junior high basketball coach and has also served as an assistant cross country coach.



Having earned both a B.S. in Elementary and Secondary Mathematics as well as a Master's in Reading, **Mrs. Elaine Brem** joined the staff twenty-one years ago after first spending several years at St. Leo Magnus School. Mrs. Brem teaches math classes to the underclassmen, is the Department Chair for Math, and is an advisor for Odyssey of the Mind. Each year, she is very involved with the Jr./Sr. Prom, various behind-the-scenes projects for the Drama Department musicals, and assists with Catholic Schools Week and the senior class trip.

Joining the ECC faculty for the second time in her career, **Dr. Pamela Allegretto-Diiulio** teaches advanced junior English, AP English Literature and Composition, and Masterpieces of World Literature. She earned a Ph.D. from Indiana University of PA in English Literature and Criticism and is certified by the College Board to teach AP English. Dr. Diiulio has had domestic as well as international teaching experiences as she is a former Adjunct Professor of Penn State Dubois and has also held the title of Assistant Professor of English at both American University of Kuwait and Gulf University of Science and Technology in Kuwait. She



has presented professional papers for international educational conferences such as the College English Association and the Global Literature Conference in various countries. Dr. Diiulio's academic book was published by Cambria Press in 2007 titled <u>Naquib Mahfouz: A Western and Eastern Cage of Female</u> <u>Entrapment</u>. During her first shift at Elk Catholic, she started <u>Synapses</u>, ECC's first literary magazine in 1997.



\*Mr. Brian Donahue has accrued a total of thirty-eight years teaching experience with the first four at Queen of the World and the rest in his current position at ECC. Concurrent with his teaching, Mr. Donahue served as the former Recreation Director for the City of St. Marys for thirty-five years. A graduate of the State University of New York at Brockport, he holds a B.S. in History/Recreation and Social Studies. Mr. Donahue is currently the advisor for the intramural basketball program.

For the past thirty-one years, **\*Mrs. Nancy Evans** has held the position of Spanish teacher. Certified in Secondary Education, Spanish, and English, she has also had the honor of studying at the University of Valencia in Valencia, Spain. Moreover, Mrs. Evans also received a full scholarship to attend the 2002 Governor's Institute in World Language. She teaches Spanish and has also taught French and writing classes at ECC. Her extracurricular activities include co-coordinator of the school's recycling program and co-advisor for the



Chess Club. She recently finished her course work to teach ESL (English as a Second Language) and is currently studying Italian and Sign Language.



Currently in his fourteenth year at ECC, **\*Mr. William J. Fernan** spends much time in both the math and athletic departments, and, more recently, the advancement office. Mr. Fernan was recently appointed as the Director of Admissions for the newly formed Elk County Catholic School System. He earned a B.S. in Mathematics at St. Bonaventure University and later went on to work as a Teacher's Assistant at the University of California at Davis. Each sport season benefits as he coaches cross country, basketball, and track and

field. With the publication of his novel <u>For the Love</u>, Mr. Fernan continues to maintain his conditioning which enabled him to qualify for and compete in the 2001 Ironman World Championships in Kona, Hawaii. In 2007, Mr. Fernan was honored as Walmart's Teacher of the Year!

\*Mrs. Danielle Fledderman, math teacher at both the middle school and the high school, is in her second year at Elk County Catholic but has fifteen years of experience under her belt teaching at the middle school level. She earned a B.A. from Grove City College and is currently working toward her Master's in Curriculum and Instruction from Gannon University. She is also a graduate of the first Leadership in Elk County class (LEC). Mrs. Fledderman stays busy as a junior high volleyball coach (she has fifteen years of experience



with the volleyball program on all levels) and as the coordinator of the junior high sports program at the middle school. She is also the St. Marys Softball Little League treasurer.



\*Mrs. Sandra Florig spent the first nineteen years of her teaching career with the middle school students at Queen of the World School where she also served as Assistant Principal for her last five years. Now in her sixteenth year at ECC, she continues to teach science and has been the Principal for the past eight years. A graduate of Clarion University with a B.S. in Biology and General Science, Mrs. Florig later earned an M.S. in Education followed by an Administrative Certificate for Elementary and Secondary Education, both from

Duquesne University. She continues her extracurricular involvement as business advisor for the yearbook, coadvisor for the Ski & Snowboard Club, and coordinator of the senior class trip. She also assists the Outdoor Club and is very involved with numerous behind-the-scenes aspects of the annual Drama Department musicals.

In her eighth year at ECC, **\*Mrs. Dana Gebauer** brings twenty-two years of Catholic school experience with her to the English Department. She holds a B.A. in Elementary Education and holds certifications in Religious Education, K-12 Library Science, and 7-12 English. In addition to her class work, Mrs. Gebauer is very involved with the ECC Campus Ministry Program, is a member of the Instructional Support Team, and an advisor for the Homecoming Dance, the Winter Formal, and Prom. She assists the local Boy Scouts of



America as Treasurer for Troop 199, works as a Children's Center Facilitator for Dickinson Center, Inc. Children Prevention Services Parents as Teachers Program, and is a Red Cross Health/Safety Instructor.



Now in his eighteenth year, **\*Mr. Theodore Hanes** was very instrumental in the early integration of technology in the classrooms and curriculum at ECC. A graduate of Penn State University, Mr. Hanes earned a B.S. in Secondary Education/Mathematics and has recently earned his M. Ed. in Educational Leadership from California University of PA. His day is spent teaching math and technology classes and, more recently, fulfilling his administrative duties as ECC's newest Vice Principal. His extracurricular activities include

acting as producer and director of the Drama Department's annual musical, advisor of the Racquetball Club, and co-advisor of the Ski & Snowboard Club. Mr. Hanes has also been honored with Walmart's Teacher of the Year award!

**Mrs. Lisa Knight** has been part of the ECC staff for thirty-three years. For many of those years, you could have found her in the passenger's seat of the Driver's Ed car, in the gym, or in the classroom teaching health. Mrs. Knight holds an M.S. in Social Sciences as well as a B.S. in Health, Physical Education, and Recreation. Moreover, she is also certified in Behind the Wheel Driver's Training. She coached varsity volleyball for seventeen very successful years, retiring with nine District Championships. Mrs. Knight's extracurricular



responsibilities currently include assisting with the Outdoor Club, the annual musical, and the Ping Pong Club.



A member of the staff for twenty-nine years, **\*Mr. Ray Knight** brings with him a diverse musical background and some exciting experiences. In his early music career, Mr. Knight played with some still famous names including "Blood, Sweat, and Tears," Bill Watrous, Dr. Marcellus of Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C., and Randy Purcell to mention just a few. He earned a B.A. in Music Performance with a concentration in education and recently completed his English as a Second Language (ESL) Certification,

making him part of a very small but elite group of such educators. Mr. Knight is the current director of the high school band and oversees numerous facets of the Music Department.

The veteran of the both the math and science departments, **\*Mr. Jim Lallman** has taught at ECCHS since 1982. He can be found teaching math, statistics, and physics classes. A cum laude graduate of Gannon University with a B.S. in General Science (Mathematics Concentration), Mr. Lallman also has the reputation of "in-house meteorologist" and is very involved as the Chess Club advisor and co-advisor for the Recycling Club.





Now in her tenth year, **\*Mrs. Jennifer Meyer** teaches sophomore and junior theology and serves as co-Campus Minister. Mrs. Meyer received a B.S. in Elementary Education from Clarion University and went on to earn a certificate in Religious Education and a Master's of Education and Curriculum from Gannon University. She recently completed the Leadership in Elk County (LEC) program and also serves on the Catholic Charities Advisory Board. Her duties in Campus Ministry involve the planning of all four retreats and school-wide service

projects. She also oversees the ECC Service Outreach Program and is instrumental in involving students in the projects "Pay It Forward" and "Gifts for Kids."

\*Dr. Shawn Millinder is in her fourth year as an ECC staff member. She has been a professor of chemistry and biology at Mount Aloysius College, the University of Pitt at Bradford, and Penn State DuBois. Dr. Millinder has spent twenty-two years in scientific development and research for academic and private sector labs. She has succeeded in being published numerous times. Dr. Millinder earned a Ph.D. in Molecular Biology from the University of Southern California and a B.S. in Bioveterinary Science & Applied Biology



from the Utah State University, graduating cum laude with a double minor in Chemistry and Computer Science. She is currently teaching chemistry along with environmental science. She is also the advisor to the Envirothon Club and assists with both Raquetball Club and Ping Pong Club.



**Fr. Ross Miceli**, a priest of the Diocese of Erie, is in his second year as a member of the ECC Faculty. He is a native of Sykesville and an alum of Central Catholic High School in DuBois. He graduated from Gannon University with a B.A. in Liberal Arts and minors in Archaeology and Business Administration. He went on to earn both a Master's of Divinity and a Bachelor of Sacred Theology degree from St. Mary's Seminary and University in Baltimore. Father was ordained on June 11, 2010 and was immediately assigned to ECC.

He now resides at St. Leo in Ridgway and teaches freshman and senior theology. Fr. Ross has become quite involved with the Campus Ministry program, the Yearbook Club due to his experience with desktop publishing while holding the title of editor at DCC, and, more recently, the development of the new ECCSS website. He celebrates daily morning masses in the school's chapel which are open to all members of the ECC community.

\*Mrs. Linda Roth brings a total of twenty-eight years experience to the English Department with seven years of public school experience as a part of her background. Mrs. Roth holds a B.S. in Secondary Education/English and fills her days teaching both regular and accelerated English classes and writing electives. Her extracurricular activities include being co-advisor to the school's literary magazine, <u>Expressions</u>, and serving on the Student Assistance Program and Instructional Support Team. She also co-teaches SAT test preparation for the



juniors in the winter months. A unique credential held by Mrs. Roth is the fact that she is a licensed PA cosmetologist!



Now in her twenty-fourth year, **Mrs. Judy Schreiber** serves as the Junior/Senior Guidance Counselor. A magna cum laude graduate of Indiana University of PA, she earned a B.S. in Social Sciences Education. She is also a 1990 and 1999 graduate of the Bucknell University Summer Institute for Counselors. Moreover, she was one of only thirteen counselors in PA to be named to the PHEAA Education Access Advisory Board. Extracurricular activities on her list include coordinator for the Leaders in Training II Program, Student Assistance

Program, Chair of the Instructional Support Team, committee member for the National Honor Society, and co-advisor of SADD.

Now in his thirty-third year at ECCHS, **Mr. Aaron Straub** has served the school community as a health, physical education, and driver's education teacher. For the past thirty-one years, he has taught the classroom phase of driver's education. A graduate of Indiana University of PA, Mr. Straub earned a B.S. in Education and later an M. Ed. from Gannon University. In addition to his role in the classroom, he has also served as Athletic Director since 1983 and head boys' basketball coach for thirty-one years. His coaching career has seen him win



eighteen District IX titles and participate in nine trips to the Elite Eight. During the 2005-06 season, the team earned an impressive 33-0 record and became the state's Class A champions! Rounding out his extracurricular duties, Mr. Straub is also advisor to the Varsity C Club.



**Mrs. Jill Struble** is in her first year as the Sophomore/Freshman Guidance Counselor and sociology teacher. She has a B.S. in Social Work and a minor in Psychology from Edinboro University as well as numerous certificates in the areas of crisis management, chemical dependency, stress management, and physical and sexual abuse recognition and treatment. She has worked as a school-based Mental Health Counselor for five years and a Drug and Alcohol Counselor for eleven years. Mrs. Struble is also a member of the Student

Assistance Program and the Instructional Support Team and the ECC coordinator of the Services for Students with Disabilities for College Boards. She is also a class representative for the ECCHS Alumni Association.

\*Mrs. Marlene Stubber is in her fifth year at ECC and has a total of twenty-nine years in Diocesan schools. She has a B.S. from Clarion University, a Master of Education from Gannon University, and holds certifications in K-12 Business Education/Computer/ Technology, Elementary Education, and Religious Education. She also recently attended the Governor's Institute for Financial Education. Mrs. Stubber dedicated the first nineteen years of her career to teaching. During eleven of those nineteen years, she also filled the position of tech coordinator for the area parochial elementary schools. Even before joining the ECC



staff, Mrs. Stubber was spending many hours in the building as both head varsity cheerleading coach and competition squad coach. She is currently the full-time ECC Tech Coordinator, teaches computer classes, and continues to serve as cheerleading coach for both squads. Her other extracurricular activities include assisting with Catholic Schools Week, pep rallies, Haunted House, Homecoming Tailgate, senior class fundraising, and the Winter Formal.



**Mr. Richard Swackhammer** joined the ECC staff six years ago as both the Elementary Band Director for the SMCES and as a music teacher for ECC students. He holds a Bachelor in Music Education from Clarion University and, quite interestingly, an Associate Degree in Mechanical Engineering Technology from Penn State University. In addition to his music classes, Mr. Swackhammer teaches drafting and stays busy helping students improve their instrumental skills and music backgrounds. He also enjoys serving as the ECC Choral

Director and Music Director for the recent Drama Department musicals.

Upon completion of a B.A. from Penn State School of Communications with a special emphasis on Japanese, **Ms. Janet VanEerden** spent two years working and studying in Tokyo, Japan. Working in a private language institute, she taught ESL (English as a Second Language) to both students and business professionals. Upon returning to the U.S., Ms. VanEerden started a small communications firm in Davidson, North Carolina where her various experiences included working with Panasonic employees and their families as they transitioned to life in the U.S., interpreting for hospitals, dentists, and the Chamber of



Commerce as well as teaching ESL and speaking in schools about life in Japan. She is in her fourth year of teaching Latin at ECCHS.



**Mr. Pete Winklbauer** is in his thirty-seventh year and holds the distinction of being the veteran with the most years on staff. Seen from morning to evening in the Art room, Mr. Winklbauer received his early training by earning an Associate Degree in Fine Arts from Mount Aloysius College and later a B.A. at Mercyhurst College. In addition to teaching six different genres of art, he also contributes his expertise to just about every art project that goes on in the school including using his highly-refined calligraphy skills to letter most

school certificates. His extracurricular activities include serving as freshman class advisor, Art Director for each of the annual Drama Department musicals, and co-advisor of the Ping Pong Club.

**Mrs. Kate Young** joined the English Department in 2008 and is one of fifteen faculty alumni. She is a 2005 graduate of St. Vincent College with a B.S. in History and diverse certifications that include English and Citizenship (Social Studies). She is currently teaching freshman and junior English classes. Beyond her classroom duties, Mrs. Young has become involved with the production of <u>Expressions</u>, assisting with chaperoning and decorating for student dances, helping with the Outdoor Club, and teaching the SAT prep classes.



#### If the previous twenty-six weren't enough, here are nineteen more!

#### MAINTENANCE

Mr. Joseph Corey Mr. Thomas Renaud Mr. Ralph Swackhammer Mr. Dale Welton

#### **ECCSS OFFICE PERSONNEL**

Fr. Michael Ferrick, President of ECCSS Mr. Robert Breindel, Director of Finance Mrs. Jeanne Dippold, Financial Advisor Mrs. Mary S. Meyer, Director of Advancement Mr. Robert Ordiway, Business Outreach Coordinator Ms. Rose Anne Reuscher, Finance Assistant Mrs. Kimberly Schlimm, ECCHS Office Manager Mrs. Chrissie Schneider, ECCHS Secretary Mrs. Lindsey Straub, Director of Communications Ms. Franchesca Stubber, Database Manager

#### **CAFETERIA STAFF**

Mrs. Patty Gabor Mrs. Mary Gerg Mrs. Roxanne Jacobs Mrs. Pam Lanzel Mrs. Karen Rogan

### Fifteen of our twenty-six faculty members are graduates of Elk County Catholic High School!

Mr. Tony Breindel, Mrs. Brem, Mr. Donahue, Mr. Fernan, Mrs. Fledderman, Mrs. Florig, Mrs. Gebauer, Mr. Hanes, Mrs. Knight, Mrs. Jennifer Meyer, Mrs. Schreiber, Mr. Straub, Mrs. Struble, Ms. VanEerden & Mrs. Young

Nine of our staff members are also graduates: Mr. Bob Breindel, Mrs. Dippold, Mrs. Jacobs, Mrs. Mary S. Meyer, Mrs. Gerg, Mrs. Schlimm, Mrs. Schneider, Mrs. Straub, & Ms. Stubber