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# ARCHDIOCESE OF MIAMI OFFICE OF CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

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## PRINCIPAL NEWSLETTER

**MAY GOD BLESS YOU  
ZOE!!!**



We are extremely grateful to Zoe Doble as she officially moves into retirement at the end of this month. Thank you for your wonderful service to our schools! Our prayers are with you and your family.



### A MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Dear Principals,

Welcome to the second semester! I hope you had a restful Christmas Break and are ready for a busy semester ahead. As announced in my recent email, our next Principals' Meeting will take place on Thursday, Jan. 19 at St. Timothy School. This meeting will begin at 8:45 AM, with hospitality (including light breakfast) starting at 8:15. It will be wonderful to be with our principals in the new year!

We have also been working hard on the Master Calendar for 2023/24. I know that you are eager to get access to this calendar. While a draft has been developed, we are waiting until Miami-Dade School District releases their calendar (Broward released a Master Calendar before Christmas). While we do not necessarily follow the public schools, we prefer to use their calendars as a reference. I believe the Miami-Dade calendar will be released in the next few days. If not, our plan is to release the calendar by the end of the month.

As always, this Newsletter is full of important information. I encourage you to read this information carefully and follow up with questions as needed.

Yours in Christ

Jim Rigg, Ph.D.  
Secretary of Education  
Superintendent of Catholic Schools

## COVID REMINDER:

COVID cases are unfortunately rising again across the state. It is very important that you carefully follow our COVID Policy (most recently released in November, 2022). Remember to report all COVID exposures and infections to the office of Sr. Elizabeth Worley, Chancellor and COO, through the Electronic Exposure Form (8-2022). The current version of the policy can be found on the Archdiocesan E-Library (under Education; Policies). Please contact Sr. Elizabeth with any questions: [eworley@theadom.org](mailto:eworley@theadom.org).

## MENTAL HEALTH TASK FORCE: (All trainings will be posted in RML. Be sure to register.)

- **Training 1:**
  - Counselor-only training: Feb. 14, 10:00-11:00 AM
  - Other Task Force members: Feb. 7, 2:30-3:30 (NOTE: We are currently trying to adjust times to avoid conflicts with dismissal. We will inform you if/when these times are adjusted)
- **Training 2:**
  - Counselor-only training: April 25, 10:00-11:00 AM

## PRINCIPALS RETREAT

The annual Principals Retreat will take place on Thursday, Feb. 16 at the Casa Manresa Retreat Center (12190 SW 56<sup>th</sup> St., Miami). Our retreat leader will be renowned Catholic speaker and author Joe Paprocki ([Joe Paprocki, D.Min. | Loyola Press](#)). The title of the retreat will be “8 Steps to Overcome the ‘February Blahs’ (Even in Sunny Miami!)”. More information, including a schedule, will be released in the coming weeks.

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

**Professional Development Requests for March 17 need to be requested ASAP.**

**Broward PD Request Link:** <https://forms.office.com/r/hE7hNiDDuG>

**Miami-Dade Request Link:** <https://forms.office.com/r/FfYqmqgStg>

**The Professional Development Institute in Partnership with Teaching Strategies presents Creative Curriculum and GOLD® Training Sessions:** (Please share with your preschool directors.)

### Introduction to The Creative Curriculum for Preschool

This highly interactive 1-day session introduces participants to The Creative Curriculum® for Preschool. Participants will become familiar with the 38 objectives for development and learning that inform every aspect of teaching. They will then explore and practice using the components of the curriculum, including knowledge-building volumes, Teaching Guides, Mighty Minutes®, Intentional Teaching Experiences, Book Discussion Cards®, and, if applicable, Highlights High Five Bilingüe® and Book Conversation Cards®.

Register here: <https://trainings.elcmdm.org/CourseView.aspx?ID=1220443>

**Date:** 1/23/2023

**Time:** 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.

**Date:** 1/24/2023

**Time:** 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.

### Introduction to GOLD:

Assessment is a vital piece of effective and responsive teaching. During this hands-on 1-day session, participants will examine the importance of ongoing formative assessment and reflect on their current teaching and assessment practices. Participants will practice using a variety of tools to gather authentic information about children's knowledge, skills, and abilities. By leveraging the progressions of development and learning, participants will strengthen their ability to make accurate assessment decisions. Participants will also explore digital tools used to bolster family partnerships and engage in two-way communication.

Register here: <https://trainings.elcmdm.org/CourseView.aspx?ID=1220451>

**Date:** 1/24/2023

**Time:** 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.

**Date:** 1/25/2023

**Time:** 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Register today. Space is limited



## ST. THOMAS UNIVERSITY PROGRAM

We are thrilled this week to begin the new MS in Catholic School Leadership program, in partnership with St. Thomas University! This program is designed for current Archdiocesan school teachers who wish to become principals. We had over 40 inquiries about the program, and 14 students have been accepted into our first cohort. Classes began this week for this two-year program. Thank you to all principals who nominated participants!

