

Patricia McDermott named interim principal

As St. Mary's School in Hagerstown begins its search for a permanent principal, Patricia McDermott said she feels "blessed" to lead the school as interim principal for the coming school year. A teacher at St. Mary's for five years and assistant principal for three years, Ms. McDermott is also a parent with children enrolled at St. Mary's.

"I feel very supported by the pastor and the faculty," said Ms. McDermott, a parishioner of St. Mary, Hagerstown. "We have a strong faculty and a great parent group. We're all working together for our students to achieve academic success and help with their faith journey."

Ms. McDermott said she doesn't know if she will become a candidate for the principal's position or return to the classroom as a teacher.

There are currently 265 students enrolled at St. Mary's, Ms. McDermott said, and the school will introduce its first year of full-day kindergarten this September.

"We're very excited that the kindergarten is full at this time and we have a waiting list," she said.

A native of Prince George's County, Ms. McDermott holds a bachelor's degree in education from Salisbury State University and a master's degree in education administration from Loyola College in Maryland, Baltimore.

She previously taught in public schools in Prince George's County and Anne Arundel County.