

September 2007

Dear Parents/Guardians of 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> students,

Welcome back to a new school year! My name is Señora Gaetzke. I come from Hartford, Wisconsin where I taught 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade Spanish for the past two years. I am very grateful to be teaching at Holy Cross and St. Nicholas this year. I am looking forward to working with all the staff, students, and families.

I have a few goals for this year. One, I want to emphasize the benefits of learning another language with the students. Two, I want students to recognize how the Spanish language is widely used in the U.S. In addition to learning the language, I want to give students a foundation for exploring and understanding Spanish-speaking cultures and peoples. Another goal is conducting most of the class in Spanish as time goes on, so that the students get used to hearing the language. And finally, I would like to stay in touch with parents/guardians to help create more successful young individuals in the classroom.

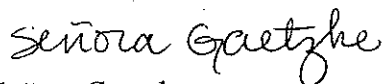
According to the supply list, students should have a 1" binder for Spanish class. Please make sure students have a supply of loose leaf paper in their binder. It is not required that students have Spanish-English dictionaries, however I do recommend that one is purchased (for 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade). It is easier to use than the back of the textbook and can be used for homework or in class. Copies can be purchased at many stores, including Goodwill or Barnes & Noble. The price usually runs from \$3-\$20. This is to your discretion.

To create more of an opportunity for success, students will be assigned in-class work as well as homework. The more exposure as well as practice, that the students have, will help students to better learn the language and eventually become fluent. I will assist students in finding strategies to study Spanish to also create more success.

Work that is late will lose 10 percentage points per class period. I will send a "Late/Incomplete Assignment Note" home. Absent work will be accepted within a week's period, after the student returns to school.

Once again, I look forward to working with this school community. Please feel free to email me with any questions or concerns at: [egaetzke@kcsonline.org](mailto:egaetzke@kcsonline.org).

Muchas gracias,



Señora Gaetzke