

Saint Mary Magdalene Catholic School is pleased to announce that Mr. John Mihalyo has accepted the position of Principal beginning July 1, 2019.

Mr. Mihalyo will be assuming the role currently held by Mr. Bob Cadran, who is retiring at the end of this school year.

While new to Saint Mary Magdalene, Mr. Mihalyo is no stranger to the Diocese of Raleigh. Over the past seven years, he has served as Principal of Saint Raphael Catholic School in Raleigh. While at Saint Raphael, the school saw exceptional growth in enrollment, student activities, and parent involvement. The school was fully re-accredited in 2015 with outstanding marks.

"The Catholic identity of the school is something very important to me," said Mihalyo. The school attends weekly Mass as a community, offers the Sacrament of Reconciliation monthly to students and faculty, and is involved in ongoing service opportunities throughout the community to benefit organizations including but not limited to, Catholic Parish Outreach and the Project Gabriel."

During his tenure at Saint Raphael, Mihalyo led the efforts to expand the fine arts at the school by partnering with Cardinal Gibbons High School to bring a strings program, band, and chorus. Additionally, after school activities such as chess club, fencing, ultimate frisbee, and Battle of the Books.

Mihalyo has sought to grow opportunities for parents to partner with the school, something he hopes to continue at Saint Mary Magdalene. Parent seminars on topics such as bullying, social media, and digital citizenship helped facilitate conversations for parents and their children, and formed partnerships between the school and home. An active Home and School Association has created opportunities to build upon the strong community at Saint Raphael through events the whole family can attend together.

Mihalyo believes in helping teachers and himself continuously improve through meaningful professional development opportunities. He has attended the 2018 Association of Supervision and Curriculum Development National Conference, The Leader in Me National Conference by Stephen Covey, and the Partners in Mission National Conference on Institutional Advancement and Marketing.

Prior to moving to Raleigh, he spent four years in Weirton, West Virginia, as the Principal of Weirton Madonna High School from 2008-12. During his time at Weirton Madonna, the school experienced a great deal of success academically, with over 60% of the students being awarded the Promise Scholarship in the state. Additionally, he created the Madonna Plus Program, a partnership with Wheeling Jesuit University that allows students to leave high school with an associates degree.

Mihalyo received his MS in Educational Administration from Shenandoah University and his BA in Elementary Education with a Minor in Social Sciences from West Liberty University.

He is married to his wife Theresa, and they have two children, Grace (10), and Jack (5) who will be attending Saint Mary Magdalene next year.

