

## **Inspiring Learning**

## **Brandon Scott**,

Physical Education Teacher, Kindergarten through 3rd Grade

The real spirit of St. Mark's is the way the community comes together on a day to day basis. Everyone supports each other like a championship team through good and bad times. I also love the smiling faces that I see running around all day. Our students are always SMILING! At St. Mark's, we definitely embrace every unique child. We promote learning in a fun and adventurous way so that all the students will be engaged in learning. I love teaching mainly because it brings a smile to my face to see students of all ages grow and reach new achievements. Teaching P.E. and coaching students in Kindergarten through 8th grade gives me the opportunity to help our kids develop life skills while having fun in each game or activity that we play. All of my age groups vary, so that also challenges me to bring the best out of them in different ways. Every time that we play a game, one of my students learn something new about themselves or their team that will be with them throughout their journey of life.

**Caity Dillon,** Spanish Teacher, 3rd through 5th Grade

I was drawn to the St. Mark's community as soon as I walked through the door. The faculty, staff, and administration always make me feel welcome and supported. At St. Mark's there is a focus on recognizing and celebrating the uniqueness of our students. As a result, our students know that they have a lot to contribute to the learning environment as well as how much they can learn from one another. Their understanding of these things creates an environment that is comfortable, playful, and inviting. Watching kids grow up and mature into students that take ownership of their learning is the most exciting part of teaching. I love piquing students' curiosity about the Spanish language and cultures and watching them dig deeper to learn more. Offering our students the opportunity to travel and use their Spanish in authentic contexts is a dream come true. I have loved seeing how their motivation has soared since they have realized how their learning will influence their life outside of the classroom.

Kathy Howe, 6th Grade Math Teacher

I love St. Mark's because it is a community that accepts and celebrates every individual within it. I am excited to get to know each child as an individual and see how I can help them to move forward in their journey. I see our mission in action in the way we balance academic pursuits with time spent in play and in character growth. We really live out our mission every day, helping each student (and each teacher) to become their best selves. Math is my favorite subject because there are so many ways to solve each problem. Every student sees things differently, and from studying their techniques we all learn more. This year I have learned that hearing each child's voice is a crucial component to engaged learning. Because there are multiple ways to solve each problem, each child has something to contribute to the lesson.