

# Alumni Saint Spotlight



**Stan Kosmoski (HN 1973)** Science Teacher, and Coach, credits his wife for a late-in-life career change. After a number of years in radio and television, she began pulling him into her language arts classroom to use his performance talents to bring literary and historical characters to life. Eventually that led to a position designing curriculum in science museums, and finally a career as a middle school science teacher. Stan says, "It is still amazing (and humbling) to me how often I run into students who have chosen biomedical or scientific careers because of the influence of my class." He still gets to "perform" before a captive audience (regularly doing classes as Einstein, Newton, or daVinci) but now he also gets to inspire futures! Each year Stan and his class work on an online project with real, research scientists, climb Everest each spring with a blogging set of adventurers, and use Jeopardy and Password to review for tests. In Stan's own words, "Learning can be fun!"



## How do you feel your Holy Name education helped get you where you are today?

For my years in elementary school, I was simply focused on grades. I wanted to have the highest grades, win the most accolades, and nothing else mattered. When I started at Holy Name, Roger Antonioli, my 9th grade English teacher, taught me the joy of learning...that it was about the journey, not just the destination. He approached every unit as a "story" and allowed the information to flow in a logical order. I have transferred those priorities to my classroom. I think he would approve.

## What advice would you give to current Berks Catholic students?

There are no wasted opportunities! Even things you are not initially interested in or excited about participating in often add skills, experience, and talents that will make a difference in your life later. I found teaching as a career (which has been the most rewarding and enjoyable, although not best paying career of my life) because I helped my wife with a project, and later helped a high school class with a video project, and finally helped students understand science with splashy, in-class presentations. I just wish I had found teaching earlier!

## Tell us a little bit about yourself and what you like to do in your spare time.

Even though I am past retirement age, I still have a few years in the classroom left in me, as long as I continue to have fun! We have 3 grandchildren whom we love to death, a spoiled dog, love all things Harry Potter, and listen to my 256GB of stored music whenever I can. (The sad part is that I own everything I want, and there is little new music I wish to explore!)