



ALUMNAE SPOTLIGHT

PRESENTED BY THE PROFESSIONAL ALUMNAE COMMUNITY



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Sacred Heart Academy Bryn Mawr - Director of Enrollment Management

What inspired you to enroll your own daughter at Sacred Heart? What is most rewarding about seeing your own child thrive in the same school environment where you once learned and grew?

I always knew that if I were blessed with a daughter, she would be blessed to attend SHA. When my parents decided to send me to Sacred Heart in 9th grade, I fought back because none of my close friends were coming here. Out loud- I protested. But on the inside, I KNEW this was the place for me. I still credit my parents for making the decision that formed my path in life. That's the opportunity I wanted for Danielle. A chance to know who she is and be confident and proud to be herself. She's been here since preschool, and every year I have seen her grow in courage and confidence to be herself, to try new things, and to take the risk to learn and make mistakes. Every teacher has made an impact on her and, in various ways, has helped her determine who she is and what she has to offer the world around her. Knowing that she will live the five goals of a Sacred Heart Education as a future adult of this world affirms the sacrifice that my husband and I make to send her here.

How do you plan to balance honoring traditions with introducing new traditions and initiatives in the enrollment office?

As someone who experienced special SHA traditions as a student, I have such respect for the history and reasons behind our events. However, I also see the value of change because it helps us grow as individuals and as a community. I'm not afraid of change or the motivations for it. In this new role, I plan to keep classic SHA traditions close to my heart, while allowing room to adapt and start new traditions that will eventually become special memories for our current students and families.

How has your background in education influenced your approach to guiding new families through the enrollment process?

Being an elementary teacher has given me a priceless perspective that I can now share with parents as Enrollment Director. I can easily visualize their daughter in our SHA classrooms receiving the academics and support that we provide every day. I can offer the parents possible scenarios of growth or areas of new opportunity from which their daughter could benefit by being part of our SHA community.

Outside of your professional role, what passions or hobbies help you balance your busy life as a mother, alumna, and school leader?

Family is what gives me my balance in life. Not to say that I always feel that balance, though! We all have days without any balance at all, but we have to tip the scales with what we love to get it back. Spending time with my family and all my nieces and nephews is what gets me back to even. I also love to read and cheer on my two teenagers playing high school sports. Honestly, I find it hard these days to find that balance- but knowing that about myself reminds me that if one day tips heavily in one direction, I need to intentionally make time to tip it the opposite way in the days to come.

After graduating from college with a degree in elementary education, I began teaching at SHA in 2001 and obtained my Master's of Education from Cabrini in 2007. I have very recently left the classroom to take on the role of Director of Enrollment Management at SHA. For the past 20 years, my husband Chris and I have been directors of Future Stars Day Camp every summer at St. Aloysius Academy. We actually met there 25 years ago when we were both summer counselors. Both of our children and their friends work there each summer as well! We are blessed to have a daughter who is a junior at SHA and a son who is a freshman at Marple Newtown.