

### Statement in belief in education

I believe that every person deserves an education. The right to learn and become a well-informed citizen that can be effective in their community. This begins at home with teaching a child to be a respectful and inquisitive learner. When a child enrolls in a school he has a teacher who should take the task of helping prepare him for his formal education very seriously. Thinking of this child as their very own. Taking time to learn about the student, their joys, concerns, dreams, and needs. Fitting the child with an educational experience all their own. This is all done with the help of "The Village" of educators in that setting. That village pitches in where and when needed. If done correctly the student gives back because he now thrives on finding answers and solving problems. He is now part of "The Village". A well-informed citizen that is effective in their community.

### Personal and Professional

Hello and welcome to 5<sup>th</sup> grade. My name is John Greenawalt. I grew up in the Sligo area and graduated from Union School District. I graduated from Clarion University in 1996 and then took classes from Gannon University. I started teaching at St. Joseph's in Lucinda, PA. I next lived in Sandy Lake, PA and started work at the McKeever Environmental Learning Center where I was an Environmental Educator/ Co-Op Teacher for University Student Teachers. The summer of 2004 I realized I missed and wanted badly to be back in the classroom. God granted me the chance to work here at Immaculate Conception School and I have been here since 2004. I have worked in a departmentalized setting teaching Social Studies to a self-contained Fifth Grade classroom today. I have been Seventh Grade, Sixth Grade, and Fifth Grade homeroom teacher during that time. In my spare time I like to Run, Kayak, volunteer at my church and act with Knox Community Theater. I continue to direct Immaculate Conception's School Musical as well as Clarion Area High School's Musicals. I also teach theater classes at Clarion Center For The Arts.

### What makes Immaculate Conception Special

What makes Immaculate Conception special is kindness, joy, and love. The people that pass through these doors are filled with these three things. If they aren't, by the time they leave they inherit these characteristics. The students are taught with kindness, looking at the individual's needs. Joy is spread through the learning process with both teacher, student and family. This is done not only in the classroom, but in other activities outside the classroom. Love is found in the relationships that we build in this wonderful place. They are then spread to everyone who comes in contact.