

Greetings:

Just as school administrations are in that time of year when the protocol of closing the current school runs into the process of preparing for next year collide, so too is your Office for Catholic Schools. It is along those lines that I write this note to inform you of the pending changes, as we complete 2014-15 and prepare for 2015-16.

Let me begin by announcing the newest employee at OCS. Dr. Julieta Crosby will be joining the Office for Catholic Schools on May 4, 2015 as the Director of Latino / Hispanic Enrollment. Funded by a grant from the Catholic Campaign for Human Development, this office will be dedicated to meeting our Archdiocesan Plan - *From Strength to Strength* – Goal 3, Action 3 *Increasing Ethnic Diversity and Inclusion to Build Intercultural Communities*.

Dr. Crosby is a native of Mexico, moved to the Seattle region five years ago, and immediately began working to improve the relationship between Latino / Hispanic families and the schools in which their children attend, including both public and Catholic schools. Dr. Crosby brings with her a comprehensive understanding of the culture and experiences of the Latino / Hispanic communities in our Archdiocese. She is extraordinarily passionate about education, which includes researching the association of family background and the graduation rates of Latino / Hispanic students in our region. She earned her doctorate in Social Communications, is currently employed with the Horizon School District, and chairs the non-profit organization, WAGRO Learning – a foundation that provides education and humanitarian assistance to people living in Mexico. Without a doubt, Dr. Crosby has the necessary experience and education to develop and implement a Latino / Hispanic enrollment program that will assist our Catholic schools in enhancing their learning environments as culturally responsive communities, welcoming families of all ethnicities and I trust that you will join OCS and welcoming Dr. Crosby to our office in May.

A second change will occur in June when Kay Purcell begins her retirement. Many months ago, Kay decided that it was time to join her husband's retirement way of life and hang up her spurs in June.

HEADS' UP: OCS is planning to honor Kay Purcell at our May 7th meeting at the Palisades. I hope you may join us that day to attend the All Principals' meeting and honor Kay.

As the Assistant Superintendent for School Accreditation, Kay successfully brought the super-majority of our schools into the accreditation world. She is the WCEA Elementary and Secondary School Commissioner for our archdiocese, responsible for assisting schools with their self-study, organizing accreditation committee visits in our Archdiocese, and leading Catholic school accreditation committee visits for schools in other (arch)dioceses. Thanks to Kay, the bulwark of our accreditation protocol has been successfully established and now, we have the responsibility to maintain the good work she has established for our schools.

In that light, we will be transferring her respective responsibilities to others in the OCS office. Karen Tarabochia will be the WCEA Secondary Commissioner, assisting our high schools in the WCEA's "Ensuring Educational Excellence" (E3) protocol and Kristin Dixon will be assisting our elementary schools in the WCEA's "Improving Student Learning" (ISL) protocol. Both Karen and Kristin are well-aware of the excellent foundation created by Kay and will ensure her outstanding work continues for all of our schools.

In addition to the accreditation shift, we can better serve our schools in two areas: 1) Pre-Kindergarten and Extended Learning (before and after school) programs and 2) school financial services. I am also aware that we could help our schools take greater advantage of the federal and state programs available to us, including E-Rate and Title Funding. With this in mind, today we are announcing a new position at OCS –Director of PK / Extended Learning / Government Programs. This position will start in July. If you happen to know people who are exceptionally well versed in Pre-Kindergarten Programs and/or Extended Learning Programs and/or Federal and State Programs, I would be very grateful if you could share this posted opening with them. Details regarding this position can be found on the Archdiocesan website, <http://www.seattlearchdiocese.org/Archdiocese/HR/Jobs.aspx>.

To help our schools address the “business of school business”, we will be creating a new responsibility for OCS. I am grateful that Mr. Tim Hunt has accepted this charge to work with Mr. Frank Feeman (Archdiocese of Seattle Chief Financial Officer) to build a program that will help our schools with their financial accounting and business administration. Tim will do this in addition to his responsibilities of marketing & enrollment and public policies.

The other adjustments we are making for next year include shifting our employment accountabilities that will better align with providing better service to our schools. For 2015-2016, OCS responsibilities will look like:

Ms. Sandy Barton Smith <i>School Planning, Data, and Diversity</i>	Ms. Karen Tarabochia <i>School Operation, Personnel, & Governance</i>	Ms. Kristin Dixon <i>Curriculum, Instruction, & Assessment</i>
School Planning/ OCS Strategic Plan	School Operations	School Curriculum
School Data Management	School Personnel	Academic Assessments
Diverse Learners / Cultural Diversity	School Governance	Teacher Professional Development
	Secondary School Accreditation	Elementary School Accreditation
Dr. Julieta Crosby <i>Latino / Hispanic Enrollment</i>	Mr. Tim Hunt <i>Marketing and Financial Services</i>	Vacant <i>PK / Extended Learning, and Gov't Program</i>
Latino / Hispanic Community Relations	Marketing and Enrollment	Pre-Kindergarten Program
Latino / Hispanic Enrollment	Financial Services	Extended Learning Programs
	Public Policy	Federal and State Programs

And finally, I will expand my responsibilities for next year to include the Schools Leadership Formation Program and Archdiocesan Policies.

Our OCS mission is threefold ... 1) Communion, 2) Solidarity, and 3) Subsidiarity. These changes for which we are preparing are designed to be just that – serve Archbishop, the schools, and you – the leaders. If you have any comments or concerns with the new directions, please feel free to contact me at your convenience.

Peace and all good things...

Patrick Haggarty