

EDUCATION

New principal at Hogan

By Rob Cullivan
Staff writer

Vilma Goetting, former principal of Aquinas Institute in Rochester, has been appointed principal of Bishop Hogan Catholic Academy in Irondequoit, the Diocese of Rochester announced Aug. 2.

Goetting replaces Debra-Anne Evland, who served as the school's principal for three years.

As principal, Goetting will oversee a seventh- and eighth-grade program, formerly known as Northeastern Catholic Junior High, that draws 220 students from northeastern Monroe County. Goetting said she was looking forward to overseeing Bishop Hogan, in part, because its population is so diverse. The school draws students from eight parishes and is 60 percent nonwhite, or Hispanic and black, and 40 percent white.

"This is important because if you really look at the mission of the Catholic Church, it's to include all peoples," she said.

She added that she was excited to be working with a junior high student population.

"There's a different level of energy that you usually don't see at ... the high school level," she said, adding: "They're still very open to change, to learning new things."

Prior to taking the position at Bishop Hogan, Goetting was principal of Aquinas for five years, where she served as chief academic officer and supervised instruction, curriculum planning, student discipline and the overall daily operations of the school, as well as faith development of staff and students.

She was first hired at Aquinas in 1981 to teach science. In 1986, she was named



chairwoman of the science department and became dean of women students the following year. In 1993, she was named assistant principal for instruction, lending supervisory

support in the areas of teacher instruction and development, curriculum development and student performance.

Goetting has been working in education since 1973, when she was hired to teach science at John Marshall High School in Rochester. She subsequently held teaching positions at Our Lady of Mercy and St. John the Evangelist elementary schools, both in Greece. She is a member of such educational organizations as Phi Delta Kappa; New York State Science Supervisors; the National Catholic Education Association; Association of Supervision and Curriculum Development; and Catholic Secondary School Educators of New York State. She also serves as a board member of the Maplewood YMCA.

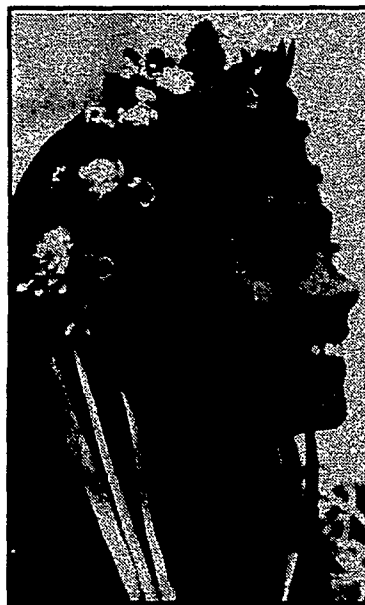
A graduate of Alfred University, where she earned a bachelor's degree in biology, Goetting also attended the University of Rochester and the State University of New York at Brockport. The longtime educator said she saw her new position at Bishop Hogan as the next chapter in a career she does not plan to conclude anytime soon.

"I'm just not ready to retire," she said. "I have the energy and desire, and I feel very committed to Catholic education, and I feel committed to Bishop Hogan."



Having fun with history

St. Charles Borromeo School sixth-graders held a Renaissance Fair June 4, dressing up as people from that era and teaching fellow students about the topics they researched. Above, Jeff Voellinger (left) and Joel Benniger present their project on the cathedrals and religious practices of the period. At left, Amanda Wisotzke smiles as she presents the research she and Anastasia Weaver developed on castles and castle living.



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