

Hello, my name is Chrysa Kostecka. I will be teaching 7/8 Grade Life Science, 7/8 Grade Religion, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Math, and Middle Level Art.

I am the youngest of seven children. I grew up in rural Shakopee living on the family farm. I attended the Catholic School in Shakopee through 8<sup>th</sup> grade and then went to the Shakopee Public Schools.

I graduated from Shakopee Senior High School in 1980. I went on to Hennepin Technical Center and received a Certificate of Hours in Accounting/Accounting Management. In 1983 I went back to college. I graduated Magna Cum Laud from Mankato State University in 1986 with a BS Teaching Degree in Elementary Education with a concentration in Mathematics.

I started teaching at St Francis in January of 1987 as a long-term sub, and continued teaching at St Francis for the next 3 years in different positions including 4<sup>th</sup> grade, 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> grade Science, Math, Reading, Religion. I also filled in for Kathy Stone when she went on maternity leave with Sarah! I left St Francis to stay at home with my children. I enjoyed home educating them for the past 13 years.

I am now a single-mom with 6 children. My oldest son Andrew just graduated from High School and is attending Minnesota State – Wadena in the Construction Electrician/Industrial Maintenance Program. Justin also just graduated from High School and is attending Central lakes College. Next in line is Peter, who is 17 and is a junior at Pequot Lakes High School. Hannah is 15, graduated from St Francis last year and is now attending Pequot Lakes high School. The last two children are enrolled at St Francis of the Lakes Catholic School, Ben is 12 and in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade. Philip is 10 and in the 5<sup>th</sup> grade.

Coming back to St Francis was like coming home. I thoroughly enjoy the children and consider it a privilege to be back here again.