Letter from Greg Ahmann:

Hi, my name is Greg Ahmann. I am so happy to announce that I have been selected as the new principal at Saint Mary's Catholic School.

A few friends asked me to apply for this position and my first thought was "no." But I began to pray about it and, one morning as I was reading "Imitation of Christ", I was struck to the heart by Jesus' words to take up my cross and to follow him. I clearly felt Jesus calling me to move beyond <u>my</u> retirement and <u>my</u> projects to embrace this school with His heart of love.

With Jesus' and Mary's guidance, I plan to build upon the great things that are happening at Saint Mary's Catholic School and to set the bar even higher for our children. I'm walking into a wonderful support team. I plan on following national standards and benchmarks for effective Catholic elementary schools. Our school will be a place where our Catholic identity invites young people to a relationship with Jesus Christ, inserts them into the life of the Church, and helps them see the role of faith for the rest of their lives. We will provide curriculum which is academically rigorous, relevant, and infused with Catholic faith and traditions. We will offer sports and extracurricular activities.

I have 28 years of experience in administration and leadership. This I acquired through experiences as an Officer in the Air National Guard, where I even did a short stint as a pilot, as a Fire Lieutenant and Lead Investigator for the City of Yakima, as a negotiator for the firefighter's union, as a property manager for North West Warehouse Leasing, and in my 40 years as a successful business owner. More importantly I've raised five great kids with my best friend and wife Brenda, whom I'm still happily married to.

I ask for your support and prayers to make Saint Mary's Catholic School a place where Christ is King, Mary our patron, and you, our community, our greatest advocate. With God's grace we will make Saint Mary's Catholic School a place where all Catholic families would be proud to send their kids. I'm looking forward to meeting and serving you.

God bless you! Greg