

Dear Parents,

I find it disquieting to realize that this is not only the last newsletter going out to parents of seniors, but also the last letter I will write for the newsletter. As I retire, I feel so blessed that I have been able to serve and be part of the Memorial family for the past 26 years. This is truly a special school; more than that, it is a faith community where members respect and take care of each other. I realized my first year that the positive relationship that existed between faculty, students and parents was different than I had ever experienced. I soon learned of the tremendous support from our pastors, parishes and alumni. I have not left all these years because I knew that I was never going to find a community like the one at Memorial.

I am very excited that a new principal has been named. I have had the opportunity to meet my successor, Mrs. Gwen Godsey; in fact we have already begun to talk about the transition for the new school year. I am confident that she will bring new energy that will allow our school to keep improving.

I hope that you will join me in honoring our two other retiring faculty members at an upcoming reception. David Hayden is completing his 26th year as English teacher and newspaper advisor. He has also coached baseball and basketball. Dave is the epitome of the male Catholic role model we need so badly in our schools. Deacon Dave Franklin is completing his 36th year as theology teacher and department head. It is hard to imagine how many young men and women he has helped grow in their faith as he prepared them to become Christian/Catholic adults. The reception is planned for May 15 from 3 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. in Holy Cross Hall. Please come by and say thanks to these two men who have given much of their lives to Catholic education and Memorial.

I want to close by saying that I thank God every day for these years He has allowed me to be principal of Memorial High School. I will continue to pray for all the members of this great school family and I ask that you keep me in prayer.

God bless,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gerry Adams". The signature is written in black ink on a light-colored background.

Gerry Adams
Principal