

# Griffiths to take post at Misericordia

Dr. Gilbert R. Griffiths, retiring superintendent of the Dallas School District, has been selected to fill the position of director of Graduate Education Programs at College Misericordia.

The director of Graduate Education Programs is responsible for the supervision, development and implementation of all graduate-level, credit-bearing and continuing education courses and all graduate-level degree and certificate programs offered by the Teacher Education Department at the college.

"We're pleased to have someone of Dr. Griffiths' administrative and teaching experience to lead our growing graduate program in teacher education," says Dr. Michael McGovern, vice president of Academic Affairs. "Dr. Griffiths, working with our teacher education faculty, administrators and others, will lead the planning efforts to maintain and enhance the quality and marketability of our graduate programs for teachers."

Griffiths, who will begin his new role full-time in December, concludes nearly 18 years of service to the Dallas School District. Griffiths served as superintendent for the last eight years and assistant superintendent for the previous six

years. He first joined the district in 1987 as middle school principal after 14 years as a teacher and assistant principal in the Wyoming Valley West School District.

During his tenure at Dallas, Griffiths supervised broad changes to the curriculum, including the introduction of "block scheduling," a way of increasing time students spend on specific subjects.

Griffiths earned his Doctor of Education Degree from the Pennsylvania State University, where he also earned his superintendent certification and elementary/secondary principal certification. He earned his Master of Science Degree in Education from Wilkes University and his Master of Science Degree in Counseling from Marywood University. He earned his Bachelor of Science Degree from East Stroudsburg University.

Griffiths is a current member and former chair of the Professional Standards and Practices Commission. He is a 1999 graduate of Leadership Wilkes-Barre and is a member of numerous professional associations including Partners in Distance Learning, American Association of School Administrators, and the National Staff Development Council.

Griffiths, who resides in Dallas, has been married 33 years to Janie Morgan Griffiths, retired Wilkes-Barre Area School District elementary teacher, and has an adult son, Barry R. Griffiths.



Dr. Gil Griffiths



FOR THE POST/CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK

Christos Iliadis, Michael Dennis, Bryan Darling, Jason Sabetta and Koryn Henry are the morning technical crew for WDMS.

## WDMS

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ing the announcers and types up the script each day. She gathers local and national news bits each morning from television and newspapers.

"I try to find interesting things that are going on in our area, such as the mine fires, the presidential candidates visiting our area and the flu vaccine shortage."

When Dolan returns from maternity leave, Naunczek says she still plans to help out. "This is totally new for me, but I'm having a lot of fun," she said.

About 60 students work in the program. Twelve of them handle the technical aspects of directing, producing and editing the show and the rest are announcers. Teams of three announcers — a lead anchor, sports and weather personalities — alternate schedules. Each team is "on the air" for three consecutive days while another team is on standby in case of an absence.

Michael Dennis, Bryan Darling and Jason Sabetta are the three lead members of the technical crew. Sabetta is the first one in the studio every morning.

"I start everything up. I send the music out. Until Mr. Flynn gets here, we send out the color bars. Then we send out the Power Point (slide show)



Katrina Heintz, Lauren Parrish and Shauna Phillips live on the set of WDMS.

with the music," he said. Groups of three or four techs alternate each day. Music is played from 7:30 to 8 a.m. while pictures taken by the tech crew of school activities alternate with announcements on the screen.

The news program airs between 8:01 and 8:07 a.m.

In the past, students have had to write a letter expressing their desire to join the club. Flynn said he'd probably hold tryouts for the next group. He believes there are students who might do well as an announcer or technical per-

Hollywood Minute.

School sports coverage is another new addition. Last week, the tech crew videotaped a soccer game. "We got a picture of their first goal," said Flynn. "When the sports segment came on we were able to switch over to our sports clip. It was like a regular sports broadcast. It was pretty cool."

The club is working on a weather broadcast using two cameras with overlapping images. "One camera will show the weather person, and the other will show an Internet chart of Pennsylvania," Flynn said. He admits it won't compare to network or cable weather reports, but feels it's a start.

A computer, printer and video camera were all purchased this year from student council funds. Flynn presented a plan to the council last May detailing what equipment he wanted to purchase and how it would be used.

He is getting positive feedback from students about the program.

"They can look at pictures of themselves and their friends, listen to music, and read school announcements."

"They have something to look forward to in the morning," he said.

## DALLAS

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administration was told to cancel it.

Board member Maureen Matiska said she received Gochoel's e-mail invitation to the October 21 meeting where twelve proposals were to get an initial review by the board. She replied that she trusted Gochoel's judgement to winnow them down.

Monday's work session will be a busy one, Matiska said, at least in the portion that is closed to the public. High on her priority list is beginning a search for a superintendent to replace Gil Griffiths, whose last day is December 1. Griffiths announced his retirement — seven months before the expiration of his contract — at the Oct. 11 board meeting.

"We've had no talk at all about a superintendent search," Matiska said last

week. She said a representative of the Pa. School Boards Association was expected to make a pitch to have the PSBA conduct a search, which could cost several thousand dollars.

There is no line on the Nov. 1 agenda for discussion on the opening.

Assistant Superintendent Michael Speziale is on a one-year sabbatical leave, and other administrators were only recently put in acting positions throughout the chain of command in the district.

High school Principal Frank Galicki has received superintendent certification, and was recently a candidate for that job in the Berwick School District.

Monday's meeting begins at 7 p.m. in the administrative office building, next to Wycallis Elementary.

Deadline for submitted news is Wednesday at noon.

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