

Dear Parents,

Hello! I am looking forward to visiting with you at Back to School Night on Tuesday, September 7<sup>th</sup>. I would like to take this opportunity to tell you a little bit about myself.

I grew up in the tiny Northeast Iowa town of Fort Atkinson and was born and raised a farm girl. I attended Wartburg College and received my Bachelor of Arts in Elementary and Early Childhood Education. I taught at St. Henry's School in Marshalltown, Iowa for six years, rotating between teaching kindergarten and second grade. This is my fifth year at St. Francis and I am very excited to be teaching your child! My husband, Mike, and I live in Urbandale. We are truly blessed to have a 5 year old daughter Madison, a 3 year old son Noah and our brand new addition, Mason. They are our absolute pride and joy.

I am looking forward to getting to know you all and to be a part of your child's success here at St. Francis. You are part of such a wonderful and caring community of people. It is so important to always remember that you are your child's first teachers, so be sure to talk with your child about his/her days at school and ask them questions about what they are learning. You might be surprised by what you hear!

If you ever have any questions or concerns, please feel free to call me at school or email me at [cgaul@dowling.pvt.k12.ia.us](mailto:cgaul@dowling.pvt.k12.ia.us). It is going to be a great year here in the first grade! I feel that the best part of teaching is watching a child grow both academically and socially throughout the school year. I am always amazed by what my students realize that they are capable of by the end of the school year!

I look forward to seeing you on Back to School Night. If you are unable to make it, please let me know and I will be sure to send out an email to you with the necessary information.

Thank you for all that you do and God Bless!

Mrs. Gaul