

# MDA Meet the Staff

**Colleen Moss:** Principal/ 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher



I was raised in the Church of Christ (non-denominational). I was very involved as a child in church through Sunday School, Vacation Bible School, Bible League, church camp and choir. When I was around twelve years of age, I decided that it was time for me to be saved and went to my parents and minister and told them that I would like to be baptized into Christ. I was born again on September 28, 1975, through baptism by emersion at the Heath Church of Christ. I have always had a positive outlook at life and knew that Christ was right there with me to help me in whatever life would throw at me. In 1986 I transferred my membership to Rocky Fork Church of Christ where I offered my services by helping in many ways with Vacation Bible School. I acted as a teacher's aide, a crew leader, and teacher for VBS to teach the Bible lesson for all ages (2 years – sixth grade). I also worked with the preschool-kindergarten aged children once a month on Wednesday and Sunday evenings.

Thanks to my dad for bestowing in me a love of learning and teaching me how important education is, I received my Master's and Bachelor's degrees in Elementary Education as well as an Associate of Arts, through the Ohio State University. I also have an Associate of Applied Business through Central Ohio Technical College.

I strongly believe it was the Lord's plan for me to end up here at Mater Dei Academy. This is my ninth-year teaching and my fifth year as principal here at MDA. God has given us all a unique way of learning and it's my job to help our students to succeed in their education in whatever path necessary.

MDA is my second family! I call this my "happy place". I love my colleagues, the amazing students, and our wonderful community feel! I also loves that I can stop and pray with our students at any time of the day.

I have a wonderful husband and three amazing grown children. I enjoy baking, gardening, and spending time with my family.

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**Cara Kennedy:** 6-8<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher



Greetings! Much like my mother, Colleen Moss, I was born and raised in the Church of Christ (non-denominational), as a child I also was involved in Sunday School, Vacation Bible School, Bible League, church camp, and choir. I was born again on Aug. 7th, 1997, through baptism by emersion at the Rocky Fork Church of Christ, where I am still am a member. I have helped with VBS by being a group leader, assisting my mom in teaching, and leading the Art and crafts leader.

I grew up in Newark, Ohio, and received my Associate of Arts degree from the Ohio State University. I'm thrilled to say this is my third-year teaching at Mater Dei Academy. This year, I will be teaching the 7th /8th grade. I enjoy sewing Cos-Play costumes, reading, and spending time with my fiancé and our five cats.

**Angie Igel:** Art Teacher (volunteer) / Board Member



Coming from a family of artists I want to bring that excitement of art to the students here. I am a parishioner at St. Patrick Church and plan to incorporate the faith into many of the art assignments. As a wife, mother, and Mater Dei Academy alumni, it's my goal to see the school grow and flourish.

**Linda Reis:** Kindergarten Teacher



I am the mother of six children all of whom attended Mater Dei Academy. During those years and after, I worked in the school office, taught art and Kindergarten as well as first and second grades. Again, I look forward to teaching the Kindergarteners at this wonderful school!

My husband is Kevin Reis, and we attend St. Patrick Church in Columbus.

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**Janet Anthony:** 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Math Teacher/Tutor



I was born and raised in Maryland. All of my ancestors came to Maryland from Ireland to be coal miners. At the age of 4 my Irish Grandmother taught me to knit. I have been knitting, quilting, embroidering, and learning every type of craft since! I also love computer science. I have a BS in Engineering-Physics, and an MAT in Computer Science.

I worked 8 years as a process engineer in a lighting factory in Western NY. I worked the next 24 years as a Technology Director and Computer Science Teacher at a Catholic High School. I have two daughters and five grandchildren. Grandchildren are a true gift from God. Two of my grandchildren attend Mater Dei, and Mrs. Jessica Reis is my daughter!

This school year I will be the math teacher/tutor for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade. On days I am not in the building, I will remote in and have a math class over zoom. I feel I am truly blessed to volunteer at Mater Dei Academy. The students are wonderful and love to learn!

**Terry Eyears:** Religion Teacher



I am a member of St. Patrick Parish. I was a homeschool parent and teacher in the homeschool cooperatives while involved in the communities. I have been involved with Mater Dei Academy as both a teacher and also as student. (Yes, I graduated with a class of 7. It has been around that long!). The Christian ethics and rich Catholic traditions and values taught and practiced are reasons why it continues to succeed.

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**Jessica Reis:** Office Manager/School Nurse/Librarian/Gym Teacher



My children and I joined Mater Dei Academy in 2021. My husband is a Mater Dei Academy alumnus. We are parishioners at St. Matthew's parish. I have 10 years of pediatric/neonatal nurse experience and I am currently working in the NICU. You can find me in the school office, nurse's office, or library, assisting Mrs. Moss with the day-to-day operations of the school. I look forward to a wonderful year with the students!

**Tabatha Dillman:** Bible Study



The Word of God and His Church has become a great passion of mine. I am excited to share this passion with our children this year. Through much prayer, my goal is to teach them read the Bible in a way that touches their hearts and brings them closer to Jesus Christ. Pax Christi

