

St Ethelreda Board Members

Each St Ethelreda Board member is listed alphabetically, followed by his/her affiliation with the school and then a short bio written by each Board member.

Diane Blue – Parent, Alumni

I am proud to be a graduate of St .Ethelreda School, Class of 1981. Currently I am employed at the Hilton Garden Inn Chicago Downtown, where I perform various Accounting and Payroll duties. I am the mother of a 10 year old son, who also attends St. Ethelreda School.

David Cain – Community

I am a retired Manager of Chicago Housing Authority. I have experience working with low-income families, children programs and unemployed people provided an in-depth understanding for the need of progressive and strategic programs to improve the life styles of many families. I am also a board member of the Chicago Boys Club, Board member of Sharing Connection, a nonprofit organization, Hesed House (Homeless Shelter), Co-Chairman of TGIF, a Ministry dedicated to help a parish recovering from the effects of Katrina, a member of the Peace & Justice Commission.

Marge Cain – Community

I am a retired Vice President of Bank of America. Currently, I am working part-time for Home Parish. I served as a member of the bank's Diversity and Mentoring Programs, spokesperson for Mayor Daley's "Stay in School" program, speaking to students/schools with high dropout rates. My other activities include Hesed House (Homeless Shelter), Board member for Joliet Diocesan Catholic Campaign for Human Development and Diocesan Religious Education Council, Chairperson of Diversity, Anti-Racism Ministry and all parish Multicultural Events, member of the Peace & Justice Commission.

Angela Clayton-Lee – Alumni

I graduated from St. Ethelreda School with the class of 1976. Currently, I am running Essential Essence Inc., a fashion and modeling troupe/agency. My career has been diverse, including work in education, banking, mortgage processing, business consulting, customer service supervision, and entertainment promotion. I am married with 3 children, ages 18, 14, and 10 yrs old.

Frank Corso – Benedictine University

I was a teacher and assistant principal in public education for 35 years until my retirement in 2004. I am currently an adjunct faculty member in the education department at Benedictine.

Thomas Hushek - Community

I am a retired Regional Vice President from Nissan Motor Corporation. I currently serve on the Edward Hospital Patient Advisory Board, and am Trustee and Board member of Sharing Connection Furniture Bank. In addition, I volunteer with the Naperville Heritage Society and consult with small businesses in the area of sales and marketing . My wife (Eve) and I have three children (Matthew 29, Katie 26, Betsy 21) and reside in Naperville.

Dr. Meshelda Jackson – Benedictine University

I am Director of the St. Ethelreda School Partnership Project and Associate Professor and Department Chair for the College of Education and Health Services/School of Education. I teach courses in Special Education and Educational Technology. I have one daughter Alexis, who is 10 years old.

Pamela Jefferson-Waits – St Ethelreda Marketing Director

I'm currently the Marketing and Development Director at St. Ethelreda School. Previously, I worked 12 years as a copywriter who created promotions and advertising for McDonald's, Kellogg's, State Farm, Kraft, Disney and other major corporations. I'm a newlywed to husband LaMont and have a stepdaughter Ashley, 26 and a step-granddaughter Autumn, 6.

William T Krieger – Big Shoulders Fund

I am co-founder of Synopsys, a leading software company. I currently teach computer science part-time at North Central College and am researching quantitative investment strategies. I have two children: Holly, 25 and Tyler, 10.

Brian Lacey - Parent, Alumni

I am a Chicago Public School teacher at Ariel Community Academy. I teach middle school mathematics and I am the lead math/ science teacher. I am married and have two children, four and eight.

Teresa McCartin – Alumni

I am employed at Mercy Hospital for 32 yrs, currently in case management, and am proud member of St Ethelreda Class of 1969

Dr. James Pelech – Benedictine University

I am Assistant Professor of Education, and I have worked with Saint Ethelreda for approximately five years. I presently work with middle school math students at Saint Ethelreda; in this capacity I model "best practices" and have conducted action research on student metacognition. I live in Joliet with my wife Gwen, and son, Christopher.

Denise Davis Spells – Principal of St. Ethelreda School

Prior to becoming Principal of St. Ethelreda School, I taught at St. Margaret of Scotland and Holy Name of Mary School. I have been a member of the Board of Directors for Mother McAuley Liberal Arts High School and am a present member of the Teacher Education Advisory Committee of Benedictine University. Presently I am pursuing a PhD in Education/Education Psychology. In the near future, I would like to write a book that shows the necessity for counseling to be a part of the regular curriculum. Today's children come to school with too much excessive baggage that prevents them, in many cases, from focusing on school. This leads to a disinterest in studying, low self esteem and a high drop out rate. Intervention strategies need to be in place in the early grades.

Dennis Webb – Community

I am a retired Executive from Navistar Inc, a leading truck and engine company. I currently volunteer at Sharing Connections Furniture Bank and serve on the boards of the Lisle Education Foundation and the Lisle 4th of July Festival Group. I have four adult children and seven grandchildren.

Dr. Ovid Wong – Benedictine University

I am the associate professor of science education at Benedictine University and I am finishing a book on school finance. This is will be my 22nd book. I love teaching, reading and writing.

Fr. William Vanecko – Pastor

I have served parishes on the south side of Chicago since 1965. Two of the parishes had high schools and elementary schools. My responsibility is to oversee the religion program, pay bills, and contribute to the general well-being. I teach religion in 8th grade.