



Très Bien
to
Celeste Chappuis
Villa Duchesne Class of 1984

Recently, Celeste and I met for a “decompression session.” We like to share stories to keep a sense of humor about what we do. I teach adolescents; she counsels them.

We slipped into a booth at Schneithorst’s and related the week’s adventures. Celeste works with students who have a wide range of obstacles to their learning. One of her methods includes meeting with students before reading their files or diagnoses. I am always struck by her innate ability to handle challenging situations that most of us can’t even imagine. After she finished telling me an extraordinary tale that seemed to be a normal day to her, I looked at her with awe. “How do you do it?” Celeste looked me square in the eye and announced, “It’s real simple. Everything I do goes back to what I learned from Sister Ghio in seventh grade.” From Celeste’s mischievous days roaming the halls of Villa to her current position as therapist and middle school principal at Logos School, all of Celeste’s experiences have helped her to learn ways to deliver the same message. She is the embodiment of the Sacred Heart tradition.

While the third Sacred Heart Goal of “social awareness which impels to action” explains *why* she is motivated to work with troubled teens, the *how* is Goal Five which involves “personal growth in an atmosphere of wise freedom.” To that end, she promotes self-discipline, responsible decision-making, and accountability in her students. She helps the students to grow in self-knowledge and develop self-confidence as they learn to deal realistically with their gifts and limitations.

I am honored to present my sister Celeste Chappuis for the *Très Bien* Award.

Amy Chappuis
Villa Duchesne 1990
April 3, 2009