



Très Bien

to

Ann Hogan Russek

City House Class of 1960

Dr. Ann Hogan Russek took to heart St. Philippine's example of educating not only children of privilege but those on the margins of society. For 46 years, as a St. Louis Public School teacher, principal, and the district's executive director, Ann instilled a love of learning in her pupils and a respect for others. For two generations, her St. Louis students have achieved dreams that often had escaped their parents.

After City House, she obtained her B.A. from Maryville College and a Ph.D. from St. Louis University. Dr. Russek shared her educational philosophy with the next generation as a professor at St. Louis University, Harris-Stowe College, and as a Villa Duchesne evaluator and a St. Louis U. High board member.

With soft-spoken dignity, an optimistic heart, and a lyrical laugh that dispels gloom, Dr. Russek transformed schools. As the founding principal of Dewey International, a magnet school, she was widely recognized for encouraging students to learn foreign languages, giving them a respect for diverse cultures and preparing them for our global economy. Last summer upon her retirement from Dewey, the school was one of four Missouri public schools honored for high student academic gains. Ann was named one of 12 of the nation's "most effective education leaders and role models."

At the age of 66, Ann didn't ease up. The City House alum accepted the challenge of leading an historic school on the brink of closing. Now she's principal of Most Holy Trinity Catholic School, north of downtown. In her first semester, she introduced Latin and German and increased enrollment from 81 to 139. In January she added an after-school program and popular Saturday enrichment sessions.

Holy Trinity's board chair Dr. Sam Sciortino said that Holy Trinity "is blessed to not only have her administrative and leadership expertise but, most importantly, the spirituality, love, and care she brings to each child."

Philippine must smile with joy at her exceptional daughter Ann.

Patricia J. Rice
City House 1960
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