Meet Kristel Spike

Meet Kristel Spike, administrator at St. Augustin Catholic School. Spike earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Elementary Education from Iowa State University with endorsements in reading and mathematics. In May 2018, she earned her Master's Degree in Educational Leadership from Creighton University.

Her career in education began at St. Augustin Catholic School, where she taught middle school mathematics for six years. Passionate about education, Spike loved every minute of being a classroom teacher. She especially valued developing relationships with students, communicating with parents, working collaboratively with colleagues, and being part of the parish community. In March 2019, when the principal position became available, she eagerly applied, interviewed, and accepted the opportunity to lead.

"I appreciate the relationships I have built and continue to build with all school stakeholders," said Spike. "The students are kind-hearted, hard-working, and amazing story-tellers. I love celebrating their many successes throughout the school year. The faculty and staff are dedicated, collaborative, and innovative. The parents and guardians are supportive, caring, and very involved in the school. I am also blessed to work closely with our parish leader, Father Pisut."

Never alone in her work, Spike's Goldendoodle, Flynn, is always by her side as an "employee" of the school. Flynn, a registered therapy dog, provides a gentle presence for students and faculty throughout the day. He routinely greets students with his loving nature and comforts those in need. According to Spike, "Flynn loves going to school almost as much as the students love having him there!"

Spike grew up on a farm in Perry, Iowa with her parents and three older sisters. Her husband, Nicholas, is a Physical Education teacher at Dowling Catholic High School and is the Head Coach for the Boy's Swim Team. When she's not at work, Spike enjoys spending time with family, baking, playing sports, and cheering on the Iowa State Cyclones and Chicago Cubs.