



Maria Kokenge, Foreign Languages: Spanish

Years teaching/Years teaching at St. Pius X: 20 years in United States/ 1 at St. Pius X

Department: Foreign Languages: Spanish

Coaching or club sponsorship roles: College Credit Course Adjunct

Degree(s)/Degree-granting institution: Webster University 2016, Adjunct Faculty Member University of Missouri - St. Louis Advance Credit Program

Major/Academic Area: Masters in Education and Innovation with an emphasis in Spanish

What is your favorite thing about working at Pius X? My students, all of them!

What has surprised you most about working for Pius X?

How respectful the students are. I have been told 'please' and 'thank you' more times I can remember.

Tell us about your proudest moment at Pius X.

Students have been confident speaking another language (mine!.)

When did you decide to become a teacher, and why did you choose this field?

I think I was born a teacher. My mom taught for more than 50 years and my siblings had taught all along their careers.

How do you motivate your students to become active learners in your classroom?

Showing them how important is a second language today.