**Thread:** Spiritual

**Subgroup:** Ignatian Education

**Foci:** New Faculty and Staff

**Program Title:** Ignatian Educator Program (IEP)

**Contact Person/Office:** John Weetenkamp, Director of Ignatian Mission and Identity

**School:** Loyola Blakefield

**Program Description:** The program intends to train all new employees in Ignatian philosophy, methodology, and pedagogy. The Director of Ignatian Mission and Identity collaborates with the assistant principal, teacher leaders, and mentor teachers. Before the advent of the new school year, the program begins with a two-day new-teacher induction and orientation on campus. During the school year, new employees meet five times with John Weetenkamp; they also attend a province-wide new-teacher retreat. Participants who have concluded the program are then invited back to present to the next year’s new hires.

**Rationale:** In response to the call of General Congregation 35 to have collaboration at the heart of a Jesuit school’s mission, the IEP is designed to build a community of lay collaborators who are well-versed in the teachings of Ignatius and the IPP.

**Leadership:** Director of Ignatian Mission and Identity John Weetenkamp, Assistant Principal John McCaul, Faculty Coordinator Dan Hoehler, and previous IEP participants

**Implementation:** See Above Please

**Processes and Resources:** The Director of Ignatian Mission and Identity collaborates with the assistant principal, teacher leaders, and mentor teachers. Before the advent of the new school year, the program begins with a two-day new-teacher induction and orientation on campus. During the school year, new employees meet five times with John Weetenkamp; they also attend a province-wide new-teacher retreat. Participants who have concluded the program are then invited back to present to the next year’s new hires.

**Finances:** No excessive costs for on-campus activities. The new-teacher retreat is paid for out of the Professional Development Budget.

**Rewards:** New employees are rooted in the mission, and they understand the importance of embodying and modeling Ignatian spirituality.

**Time (When/Length):** For new participants, training occurs for two days in August. The training is ongoing throughout the year.

**Location (Space):** Training takes place on campus and off-site location for new-teacher retreat.

**Accountability/Assessment:** At the program’s completing, participants complete a detailed survey.