

EDITORS' COMMENTS

As we approach the holy season of Advent, most administrators and readers may not be thinking of recruiting and hiring new teachers. That concern is usually reserved for spring and summer. However, the issue is so pressing and of such increasing importance that researchers in both the public and private sector regularly study recruitment and retention trends among classroom teachers.

The Focus Section presents three articles that address critical practical issues of retention in Catholic schools. The first enunciates some strategies for principals to use to hire and retain top flight teachers. The second relates the experience of one Midwestern diocese in its attempts to retain principals in its elementary and secondary schools. The third discusses collective bargaining in Catholic schools, specifically how canon law and school practice can be translated into documents that are required by civil law.

Two general articles precede the Focus Section. The first of the two addresses the issue of collaboration on behalf of inclusion within two schools as they tried to welcome students with disabilities into general education classrooms. The second applies the thought of one of the luminaries of the Catholic intellectual tradition, John Henry Cardinal Newman, in regard to seeking and accepting the mandatum as required by John Paul II's Apostolic Constitution, *Ex Corde Ecclesiae*.

The Review of Research features the relationship of the Pastor and Principal (Part One) in the governance of Catholic parochial elementary schools, a topic of growing interest and concern in Catholic schools in the U.S. Our book review section, in an effort to serve our readers better, is considerably expanded and includes five books of interest on spirituality, literature, and high school curriculum.

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