

## Faculty Focus

### **Andrea Holland - Lower School Computer**

Andrea Holland's teaching experience includes previously homeschooling her three daughters, teaching in middle schools, and preparing adult students to take their GED (General Educational Development) test.

Mrs. Holland is a Topeka High alumna and an Ichabod. She earned her bachelor's degree in English, and her master's in education and teaching license at Washburn University.

As a middle school language arts and math teacher at St. Michael's, an independent school in Tucson, Mrs. Holland thrived in the independent school environment. "I loved the freedom of being able to make changes to the curriculum and design electives for students that reflected my interests and skills. It was a great experience," she recalls.

Perhaps her most challenging teaching job, yet most inspirational, was preparing students to take the GED test at Topeka Public School's Adult Education Center. Students ranged in age from teens to adults, yet they had one thing in common. "They were all there because they wanted to be there," she says. "They were ready to further their education and it was a pleasure to learn with them."

Mrs. Holland's teaching philosophy and inspiration also come from her own home. "As a teacher, I take inspiration from my own children, and think about how I'd want them to be educated and treated, and I keep that in mind with every child who walks through the classroom door."

