



**We are pleased to share that Ms. Carmen Anello, a current Kindergarten teacher at Topeka Collegiate, will be transitioning into the role of Second Grade Teacher for the 2021-2022 school year.**

“Ms. Anello has been a dynamic addition to the Topeka Collegiate faculty in her first year at Topeka Collegiate,” said Dr. Lyn Rantz, Head of School. “Teaching comes naturally to Carmen, and it’s clear she has a passion for helping our students learn and grow.”

“Throughout this initial year, I have been in awe of the collaboration with all of the student parents, grandparents, and families,” said Ms. Anello. “The families’ spirit of giving, countless volunteer hours, and their never ending support creates a Collegiate Community that extends far beyond the walls of our incredible school.”

Ms. Anello will work closely with our current Second Grade teacher, Mrs. Bammes, as she transitions into the lower school hallway. By establishing two Second Grade classrooms, we are able to maintain smaller class sizes for our rising second grade students.

“I’m excited Topeka Collegiate is ready to open a Second Grade classroom! I’ve also enjoyed getting to know Carmen during her first year at Topeka Collegiate and look forward to partnering with her more closely in the year ahead,” said Mrs. Bammes.

“Topeka Collegiate's approach to education has reinforced my belief in the power of nurturing a child's natural curiosity that reaches beyond the academic curriculum,” Ms. Anello said. “By incorporating social and emotional learning into daily activities, each child is able to develop a passion for learning, resulting in greater self-awareness, confidence, and



leadership skills. It is never too early to encourage a child's desire to understand our world and empower them to create positive change in their community.”

“As I transition into the Second Grade classroom, I find myself most excited about the opportunity to dive deeper into the academic piece of our curriculum, as well as continued development of principles immersed in equity, justice, and social engagement,” Ms. Anello said. “So much of my own personal growth has emerged through our younger students’ genuine compassion, curiosity, and brilliantly simplistic answers to the world's complicated issues. Thanks to their unrestrained perspective of life's challenges, I am reminded daily that our world will forever be full of beautiful possibilities. This holds true for me whether my class glows with the ever flowing energy of our 5-6 year olds, or the shifted energy within the contemplative discussions with our 7-9 year olds.”