



**Joseph Branco**

Mr. Joseph Branco is excited in joining the learning community at Holy Family-Holy Name School. He brings a belief that as an educator it is his responsibility to help all students grow academically, spiritually, and socially. He believes in respecting the differences of each student's personality and learning style, and that students must be encouraged to become life-long learners, active citizens within society, and in serving others as God calls us to do each day.

He believes classroom instruction must be student-centered, and that all students represent a community of learners who seek to be challenged to do their best on a daily basis. He views teachers and parents as facilitators of learning opportunities for students to experience meaningful personal growth every day. Mr. Branco seeks to involve the community at-large in the learning process, recognizing that local resources are fundamental and must be utilized to promote success throughout a school community.

Before becoming an educator, Mr. Branco served in the United States Marine Corps for twenty-two years in various aviation, safety, security, and force protection billets. He retired from active duty in 2002 while serving as the Aviation Force Weapons Officer on the Commander, Naval Surface Force, (SURFLANT) staff, United States Atlantic Fleet in Norfolk, Virginia. He earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Industrial Security Management from Park College in Parkville, Missouri, his Master of Science degree in Education from Old Dominion University in Norfolk, Virginia, and his Education Specialist degree in Leadership-Administration and Supervision from The University of Virginia, in Charlottesville, Virginia.

Beginning in 2002, Mr. Branco started teaching students in grade 2 as a summer school teacher and then as a classroom teacher in grades 3 and 4 while serving at Rena B. Wright and Great Bridge Intermediate in Chesapeake, Virginia. In 2005, Mr. Branco was selected as a Technology Integration Specialist (TIS) and worked at Great Bridge Intermediate, coaching teachers to enhance teaching practices while incorporating technology into their daily instruction. He also served as the Internal Coordinator School Improvement Site Planning Committee, as a Quality Review Team Member with the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) regional accreditation team, and participated in the Mayor's Task Force on Gang Violence. He facilitated the awarding of literacy resource grants for Great Bridge Intermediate from the Pitney Bowes Literacy Foundation and the Commonwealth of Virginia Department of Aviation.

From 2010 to 2019, Mr. Branco was assigned as Assistant Principal at Southeastern Elementary and George W. Carver Intermediate schools, where he served the "Lil Hawk" and "Tiger" learning communities while focusing on Special Education, Virginia Alternate Assessment Program, and Positive Behavior Intervention System (PBIS) programs. Additionally, Mr. Branco served on several district committees to include the Charter School

Policy Review Executive Committee, Synergy Student Information System Executive Committee, District Teacher of the Year Committee, Bring Your Own Device Elementary Committee, and School Safety Committee.

He is actively involved in the church community to include the Fourth Degree with the Knights of Columbus Council 8240 and Assembly 2185. Mr. Branco is VIRTUS trained, and has served as a Senior Catechist within the Diocese of Richmond and Diocese of Raleigh as a religious education teacher for students in 5th, 9th, 10th, and 11th grades at Prince of Peace Catholic Church in Chesapeake, Virginia and at St. Paul Catholic Church in New Bern, North Carolina. Mr. Branco has served with the Boy Scouts of America from 1985 until 2017 in multiple capacities to include Den Leader, Cubmaster, Scoutmaster, and Commissioner.

Mr. Branco is originally from Tiverton, Rhode Island and is relocating from Chesapeake, Virginia with his wife Aeveen, and is the proud parent of three children- Cian, Aoife, and Ciara. Mr. Branco looks forward to meeting and working with the students, families, and staff of the Holy Family-Holy Name school community. He is excited to learn from, share with, and serve alongside the talented and dedicated staff at HFHN and in supporting them to bring out the best in all students!