DIOCESE OF ALLENTOWN

**OFFICE OF EDUCATION**

TO: Principals, ELA Coordinators, ELA Teachers

FROM: Sister Anita Patrick Gallagher, IHM

 Assistant Superintendent, Curriculum

DATE: May 14, 2018

RE: Writing Prompt Information for the 2018-2019 School Year

**We are pleased to announce that seventeen of the Diocese of Allentown schools were in the range of the 90 – 99 percentile, and six schools in the range of the 80-89 percentile, school norms for the 2018 Iowa ELA total**. **Seventeen of the Diocesan Schools were in the**

**90 – 99 percentile, and seven schools in the range of the 80-89 percentile, school norms for the 2018 Iowa Language total**. This is the result of the lasting work of all the Diocesan teachers, especially the ELA instructors and administrators.

Gratitude to all the ELA coordinators, teachers and the principals for their diligence in sending writing prompts into the Office of Education. The Diocesan ELA Curriculum Committee, who reviewed the samples from the schools, has seen an improvement in the writing and ELA due to the efforts and consistency of the teachers. We all realize that writing is something that needs to be worked on constantly by instructing students in the best practices and to have them write across the curriculum consistently.

**The schools have been using Diocese of Allentown Writing Prompts since 2011; it is now time to go to the next level, where the schools can come up with their own writing prompts for the 2018-2019 school year.** I am confident that the teachers are at a point where they can do this, with guidance. This can happen in many ways, such as; creation of their own writing prompts, use of writing prompts from their texts, reference to the writing prompts that the committee created in the past and the present. These can be located on adeducators, under ELA, General Writing Prompt Information. There will also be a webinar creating suitable writing prompts, available at a future date.

The teachers will not send the writing prompts to the Office of Education, but the information will still be put on Google and the writing prompt assessment will go into the writing folder.

 With the guidance of teachers, coordinators and principals, students will continue to make progress in their writing English Language Arts.