



MERION MERCY ACADEMY

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Elsie Goss Caldwell was born and raised in West Philadelphia. She is the oldest of seven children and the proud mother of Dr. Leon D. Caldwell, Keisha Caldwell and daughter-in-law Celika Caldwell. Her son Kenneth was killed in the World trade Center on September 11th, 2001. She is affectionately called Grammie by her two grandchildren Kahlil Kenneth and Kendi Maya. As a member of Our Mother of Sorrows Catholic Church for 45 years she volunteered as the CYO Moderator & Associate Director for Region 8, served on Parish Council, Finance Council and was a Lector. She then became a member of St Ignatius Catholic Church where she continues to serve in the aforementioned capacities as well as serving on the Board of Advisors for St Ignatius Independent Mission School and annual church Christmas Bazaar. In 2013 Ms. E. Goss Caldwell received the Claver Award from “Daughters of Peter Claver” for outstanding service to the church. Her prior work with youth included speaking at a summer program for inner city youth – Villanova’s “Books and Hoops” and the Shipley School as part of a Martin Luther King Day Panel. She continues her commitment to helping youth by teaching basic finance to 8th grade students attending Blessed Virgin Mary School in Darby. Elsie is the owner of E. Caldwell Tax Services and a licensed notary for the state of PA. Her place of business for 28 years is also a staple in the neighborhood of West Philadelphia Her children, grandchildren and young people are the most important aspects of her life and work. She believes the more time, energy and love you invest in them, the greater the return of happiness. One of her favorite quotes is: “Teach them first to Love and Respect themselves, believe in whom they are and what they can accomplish and to have faith as small as a mustard seed in God and within themselves.”