

**TO: Father Damian Zuerlein, Pastor**

**CC: School Advisory Council**

**DATE: June 8, 2009**

**END OF YEAR**

**Annual School Report**

**2008-2009**

**PREPARED BY: Christine M. Overkamp**

**Principal**

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## 1. ENROLLMENT

Enrollment 2008-2009 (as of May 2009): 513

Enrollment for 2009-2010 (as of June 1, 2009): 509

June 2009: K(60\*); 1<sup>st</sup>(52); 2<sup>nd</sup>(57); 3<sup>rd</sup>(60\*); 4<sup>th</sup>(56); 5<sup>th</sup>(56); 6<sup>th</sup> (57); 7<sup>th</sup> (54); 8<sup>th</sup> (57)

\*indicates names on a waiting list - the enrollment numbers in ( ) are as of the initial list that I received on June 1 – it has gone up a few and families in grades 1-8 who still need to meet with me are not counted in the above numbers.

## 2. FEES and TUITION

**Last year fees 2008-2009 for K-7:** \$850 + \$75 (technology) = **\$925**

Grade 8: An additional \$25 for graduation fee - **\$950**

Tuition for non-parishioner K-8: \$3,425 first child; \$2,925 second child; \$2,515 third child; and \$ 1,975 for fourth and additional children.

**Current for next year 2009-2010 for K-7:** \$950 + \$75(technology) = **\$1,025**

Grade 8: An additional \$25 for graduation fee - **\$1,050**

Tuition for non-parishioner K-8: \$3,475 first child; \$2,975 second child; \$2,565 third child; and \$ 2,025 for fourth and additional children.

**3. IOWA TEST of BASIC SKILLS** Standardized Testing is required by the State. The Archdiocese of Omaha has chosen ITBS as the instrument to use. The Archdiocesan Catholic Schools Office has formed a committee of school administrators to evaluate other sources of standardized testing and the committee is tasked to present findings during the next school year. I have been selected to be part of this committee. ITBS summary is attached.

## 4. KOREAN AMERICAN EDUCATION ALLIANCE - STUDENT EXCHANGE PROGRAM (KOAM).

We did not host Korean students for the school year 2008-2009. We were unable to find host families. We did continue to send out information regularly about this program and encourage families to prayerfully considered opening their home to an exchange student for one school year.

## 5. CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL ENROLLMENT 2009-2010 - based on June 2009 information

Gross	18	Duchesne	1	Prep	8	PLV/PLVS	8
Roncalli	0	Mercy	4	Mt. Michael	2	Unknown	12
Skutt	3	Marian	0	St. Peter Claver	0		

Scholarships to Catholic High Schools awarded: 14 from placement testing; 11 from scholarship applications to sponsoring organizations.

**6. SCOPE AND SEQUENCE** Scope and Sequence has been organized K-8 by subject. Religion, Math, Science and Language Arts were set up using the Archdiocesan Essential Standards which were coordinated with the Nebraska Essential State Standards, except for Religion.

Social Studies Archdiocesan Essential Standards were finalized and used in 2008-2009 in the final year of the piloting program. The final revised version will be distributed to all schools for implementation in 2009-2010.

World Language was revised this May 2009 and will be reviewed and used by the piloting schools in 2009-2010.

Reading/Writing, PE, Computer, and Music were organized using Nebraska State Standards when applicable - these subjects are in the 5 year process of being updated to coordinate the Archdiocesan with the Nebraska State Standards. Needless to say, this scope and sequence process is on-going and will be updated as needed - all updates will have reviewed/revised with the dates posted on the documents.

**7. PERSONNEL** The base pay for new teachers with no experience: 2008-09 = \$23,932; 2009-10 = \$24,761

Our World Language program, which is not currently a Nebraska state requirement for elementary schools, was suspended, due to budget cuts, effective for the 2009-2010 school year. Our Spanish teacher, Mrs. Jill Tomson, was notified of this possibility prior to the end of the first semester. In February, she was officially notified that her position was being eliminated for the coming school year. Jill has applied for other Spanish positions and plans to sub as much as possible next year. All other teachers have indicated they will return.

We have one classroom aide, Kathy Kluver, who is not returning next year. She is going to stay at home to care for a new baby who is due in late June. Faye Sampson who has subbed as an aide extensively this past year for us will join us as a full time aide next year 2009-2010.

**8. COUNSELOR** The following is a summary of guidance provided by Mrs. Marlena Laney this past year.

- 246 regularly scheduled guidance lessons
- Individual student counseling services included: K-2 @ 15; Gr. 3-5 @ 49; Gr. 6-8 @ 40 for a total of 104.
- Number of sessions per level: K-2 = 36; Gr. 3-5 = 112; Gr. 6-8 = 102 for a total of 250.
- Students receiving multiple interventions: 50
- Students receiving services with IEP interventions: 6
- Student observations: 13
- Students encouraged or referred for outside services: 17
  
- Pinky - Grades K-1
- Yellow Ribbon – Grade 6
- Pride Omaha: 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades
- The Babylonian Encounter Grades 1-3
- Career Assessments in Lab Grades 6-8
- Peer Mediation - Grade 4

**9. NEW PROGRAMS** We initiated a High Ability Learners program this school year which is mirrored off the one used by Papillion LaVista school district. Mrs. Deb Williss is the moderator for this program and takes care of testing students and compiling information that will determine if a student qualifies for the program. Mrs. Williss

works with PLV and has attended a few meetings regarding the program this year. It has proven to be very successful for the 24 students participating in it. Mrs. Amy Bova also helped get this program off the ground this year. Parents are very happy that this is being offered.

## 10. HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE CLASSROOMS

- Kindergarten - activities include the trip to Vala's Pumpkin Patch, Spring Tea, Christmas program, and Zoo trip with their mass buddies from Grade 7 and Graduation celebration.
- First Grade - field trips including Gifford Farm, The Rose Theater, and fun activities with their mass buddies from Grade 5.
- Second Grade - preparation and reception of two sacraments: Reconciliation and the Holy Eucharist. This is a spiritually exciting year for them. They also do fun "things" with their buddies from Grade 8....including May Crowning.
- Third Grade - adventure on a trip to Nebraska City to learn about the Apple Orchards, Johnny Appleseed, and some Nebraska history. Miss Schafer's room still has two "furry" mascots.
- Fourth Grade enjoy a trip to visit our state capitol in Lincoln, Nebraska. This class spends a good deal of time studying Nebraska history. They also have a fun "fishing trip" each year and have mom or dad or grandparent be their "partner" for that fun filled adventure. Students create a "fishing trip" memory book which is perfect keep sake.
- Grade Five still partner with residents at the Papillion Manor each year and visit them especially on special holidays – Halloween, Christmas, and Valentines Day.
- Sixth Grade students experience Outdoor Education thanks to the 4-H Camp who provides the facilities and parent volunteers who help supervise the day long event. They attend a fantastic Vocations Awareness Day sponsored by our Archdiocese and this year they went to St. John Vianney parish center for it. As customary, the students also participated in a full day Choral Concert hosted at Daniel Gross Catholic High School.
- Seventh Grade students have an opportunity to become part of an after school Engineering Program which leads to presenting their group "project" at a competition held at the UNO campus each year. They also experience having a hallway locker for the first time which is always interesting to master in August and September. As customary, they go on a field trip to the zoo in May with their Kindergarten mass buddies.
- Eighth Grade: In January, many took entrance tests at one of the many Archdiocesan high schools. The students were confirmed on Sunday, April 19, 2009. They shared many "sacrament" conversations with their second grade buddies. They were the leaders of all the Field Day events on Tuesday, May 12 in the morning and Friday, May 15 in the afternoon. Their graduation dinner with the theme "Willie Wonka" was held on May 15 in the Social Level. It was a fun, memorable evening. The graduation mass and celebration on May 22 closed out this chapter of their academic adventure.

## 11. SUPPORT and EXPERIENCES

Our pastor, Fr. Damian, is a valuable leader in challenging the school to always move forward, try new things, and remain focused on the fact we are a Catholic school. He is a model of spiritual leadership with prayer as the core of everything he undertakes. In addition, he has helped our school get a partner school in Guatemala through the IXIM program. Members from a team from Guatemala visited our school on St. Patrick's Day this year. It was a wonderful visit and exchange of information. The team visited with students, staff, and administration. The partnership took on a new meaning/relationship because of this visit. We have sent a couple packages of letters and a few supplies to our sister school this year.

- We were blessed to have Fr. Wee visit our classrooms on a weekly rotating basis throughout most of the year.

- We have a dedicated and energetic group of parents who coordinate and teach the school Art Reach Program and work in each grade/classroom on a quarterly basis. This year they worked with students in various grades to create some art work to be sold at the annual parish Celei Celebration and auction held on March 7, 2009.
- We have a group of ladies from the Papillion Women's Club who present Geography lessons to one grade each year using a "passport" approach. This is a wonderful, educationally sound program that the students really enjoy in both first and second grade.
- We continue to have the excellent working relationship with our local public school district with regard to all Special Education services which are provided on-site daily. This year we had 28 students receive services from PLV.
- We have a school nurse, Mrs. Bridgett Laney, who is provided by Alegent Health Midlands one full day a week keeping student health records updated and coordinating and providing various lessons/demonstrations in classrooms.
- We have a Gross Jr. Band Program offered for our students in grades 5-8 which is coordinated through Gross High School. Lessons are taught in our building on a weekly basis and parents coordinate a contracted agreement with Gross High. This year we had about 12 students participate.
- The Papillion Police provide both the D.A.R.E. and G.R.E.A.T. programs to our sixth and seventh grade students respectively. These are nationally recognized programs dealing with drug abuse and gang resistance education.
- We have a wonderful committee of parents who host lunches/dinners for staff at various times of the year - this is a truly wonderful gift that is deeply appreciated.
- Our HSA offers valuable support to many of our school programs in the form of coordinating volunteers as well as providing funds for existing classroom needs.
- We have a Fun Lunch committee which provides "brown bag" lunches for students a couple times a year when PLV it out and we do not receive hot lunch from them. This is a fun event for the students and requires a lot of work and coordination from parent volunteers. Our normal hot lunch program is contracted through PLV and Mrs. Galing oversees the accountability for the purchasing of lunch tickets and paying for the services provided. This does include free and reduced funding paperwork monitored by the government.
- Once again the Take Charge of Education program through Target has provided a check in March 2009 in the amount of \$3,493.78. This is the 1% donation from 180 families who use a Target VISA card and have the 1% of their monthly charges directed to the support of the St. Columbkille Education program. To date, over the past several years, our school has received \$75,259.69. Most of the money is used to purchase new textbooks which we cannot get through the textbook loan program as well as teacher resource materials.
- The Religious Education office provides wonderful support for the sacramental preparation programs and family life programs in our parish. They work very well with the school staff coordinating parent meetings and the actual celebrations.
- The Parish Business Office which also includes the parish sports programs does a great job in keeping the school in the loop.
- The Parish Stewardship office keeps the school informed and offers many opportunities for service hours for our parents and students. We also get addition PR on the parish website thanks to the pictures being taken of various events by Deacon David Krueger.
- The Parish Liturgist/Music Office helps the school in preparing for all school masses as well as any "special liturgies"

Respectfully submitted

Christine M. Overkamp, Principal