

# Principal's Report

January 10, 2012

1. Enrollment: Remains steady as we lost and gained several students. We have a lot of interest in our Kindergarten especially now that we have extended the registration for five years-old to October 1st.
2. Home/School communication. I send home monthly calendars, weekly ConnectEd calls, weekly informative emails, and post on Facebook. Please let me know if you would like to be added or taken off the email list. If at any time families have missed the call or email please refer to the calendar as it has all events. The calendar can be found on our website as well.
3. New security system for the school is online and active. All members who enter the building outside of regular hours will have a four digit security code to enter the school building. There is also a new code for the Social Center. Fr. Alex plans to have these codes changed several times a year.
4. Jackie Glasheen is logging all the volunteer hours for the school. She will have a list to me soon. Please call the school office if you'd like to know your total at the end of January.
5. Upcoming volunteering opportunities.
  - Painting Party Saturday from 9:00-???. Lunch will be provided.
  - Father/Daughter Dance is in need of volunteers. Please call Louise @ 534-0724
6. A very generous benefactor has provided all schools in the Diocese with new IOWA testing materials for all grades 3-7. These new tests are aligned with the new Common Core Standards for our state and will offer much to our teachers and myself as we look to the data to drive our instruction. Testing will take place in March.
7. Family Sponsorship Program is for current MD families. If an MD family recommends a family to our school and they enroll in grades 1-8 for the 2012-2013 school year then you, along with the new family will receive a \$500.00 discount. Limitations do apply and please see flyer for details.

8. Catholic School's Week is coming up and we have many events taking place.
  - Sunday, January 29<sup>th</sup> from 12:00-2:00 MD Open House (Anointing of the teachers will take place at 10:30 mass prior to the Open House) Please keep in mind that the Open House is for new families coming to tour the building for the first time.
  - Monday, January 30<sup>th</sup> will be Spirit Day and Achievement Assembly at 1:00. Please join us if you can. Students can be creative in how they show their spirit for MD School, i.e. create a t-shirt or hat.
  - Tuesday, January 31<sup>st</sup> will be Academic Day – throughout the day the whole school will spend an hour on a specific areas, i.e. DEAR, Math Mania, & Spectacular Social Studies.
  - Wednesday, February 1<sup>st</sup> will be Service Day- All classrooms will do individual service projects.
  - Thursday, February 2<sup>nd</sup> will be Shadow Day
  - Friday, February 3<sup>rd</sup> will be Sport's Day – Students can come to school dressed in their favorite sport's outfit.
  
9. With Fr. Alex's blessing I will be going on a mission trip to Burkina Faso, Africa in late June to early July. This trip will be for approximately two weeks and my friends Sr. Linda Wilk, Sr. Patty Murphy and I will work at Sheltering Wings Orphanage in Yako, Burkina Faso. During our visit we will help with the orphaned children, work in the school, and help to dig a water well among other things. Please pray for us as this is an intensive preparation process and I hope to have the school involved in some way. I will notify families of the summer office hours as soon as I have them in place.

Principal Requests:

1. I am requesting \$1150.00 to purchase the Steps to Respect Bullying Prevention Program for all grades. This program will be a proactive way to prevent bullying and encourage respectful behavior among our students. According to our Fall Parent Surveys, not having a program in place was one of the areas in which we showed weakness. The total cost of the program is \$2300.00 and the other half of the money will come from Box Tops for Education and G&B Photography.
  
2. This year I purchased new, generic student planners for students in grades 4-8 and the teachers have found them to be very helpful, as do many parents. I have brought samples of Catholic themed planners that I would really like to see brought into our school for all grades in 1-8 for the coming school year. I am asking if the PTO would be willing to purchase these planners for the coming school year.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mrs. Tracey Tierney