

The theme for St. Mary Catholic Schools this year is **SERVANT LEADERSHIP**. The servant leadership attribute that we are emphasizing in the month of November is "**Leadership**". Everyone can be a servant leader!

Curriculum and Professional Development

We continued our literacy development with Erin Loritz from CESA 6 working with our Early Childhood and K-5 teachers at our November 4th Professional Development. The group explored options for using data to pull readers together, strategy grouping, and one on one conferencing, etc.

The PLTW Advisory Group met November 10th with Jill Ahles and Phil Kerwin serving as co-facilitators. The group agreed to a plan as to how the professional advisors could best support the teachers in the upcoming months – both in the classrooms and perhaps through specific worksites. Jill is attending the state PLTW conference this week, and will bring back information to share with the PLTW teachers and advisory group.

Admissions/Enrollment

2017-2018 REGISTRATION is underway. Students going into transition grades (K-6-9) have until November 30, 2016 to register to take advantage of the reduction in tuition. As of 11.14.2016, 37 students (out of a total of 169 current transition grade eligible students) have taken advantage of this offer. **150** total students have registered as of this same date, which is consistence with our expectations. A plan is in place that involves the principals and director of admissions to make personal follow-up contact with those families that have not yet registered for the transition grades.

5th Grade Visit Day – November 3, 2016

62 - 5th graders attended from our 3 SMCS elementary schools.

7th Grade Visit Day – November 3, 2016

7th Grade visit day was attended by 86 students representing 3 different schools (SMCMS, Holy Spirit, St. Mary Greenville).

8th Grade Visit Day – October 6, 2016

82 students attended, representing 8 different area schools (SMCMS, Holy Spirit, St. Mary Greenville, FVCA, New Hope, Shattuck, JRG Middle School, Homeschool).

Middle School Shadow Days – November 7, 8, 14, 16

20 – 5th grade students attended shadow days at the middle school over the course of four days.

High School Shadow Days – November 7, 8, 14, 16

21 – 8th grade students representing six different schools shadowed our freshmen.

HR & Staffing

Transfers/Changes/Hires

Mary Bergman has decided to retire. Jeana Johnson will remain on as long term sub for the remainder of the year and will job share 4th grade at SMM with Sherry Boris.

Fine Arts

Our Fine Arts Corporate & Friends sponsorship campaign was a tremendous success. Over \$30,000 in donations were pledged, 150% higher than projected! All donors have been acknowledged and thanked. The signage for the FAEC theatre lobby and website updates are in process to further recognize our wonderful Fine Arts donors.

Bylaws have been drafted for the Zephyr Fine Arts Boosters (Z-FAB) group. Our goal is to provide more structure and guidance as we work to grow our volunteer base to help support SMCS Fine Arts.

The Zephyr Players' premier production in the Miron Forensic Theater of Murder Can Be Habit-Forming had several sold-out shows and added an additional performance to accommodate the number of patrons who wanted to attend.

Business Services: Finance-Technology-Food Service

Work has focused on preparation of the 2017-18 budget with the Finance Committee. The next steps will be to determine tuition and the overall salary increase for next year.

A collaborative approach was taken on the teacher's request for document cameras in the classroom. After a needs assessment was conducted for the five schools, the number of cameras needed was determined, and cost savings were attained by making one larger purchase through IT vs. through individual schools. The teachers will be happy with the addition of these instructional tools in the classroom.

Fund Development

Major Gifts: Continuing to do major work in this area. Process has been accelerated due to the recent receipt of a significant gift.

Event Updates:

Meet Me In the Middle: Held post-event evaluation this week. Profit = \$27,200 (LY = \$19,000). Committee has agreed to chair the event again for next year.

Brewfest: Holding post-event evaluation tomorrow. Estimated profit = \$14,000.

Jumbo Gumbo: Event held this past Friday. Event results still being processed.

Zephyrfest: Planning in full swing.

Annual Fund: YTD = \$38,400

- November 29 is Giving Tuesday; we will be promoting this day of giving via electronic media with general audience and alumni.
- Pledge/gift envelope for AF is being enclosed in the Donor Report, which will be mailed next week.

PTO plans: Working on giving/spending guidelines that benefit the entire system (as a result of recent audit requirements).