

The theme for St. Mary Catholic Schools this year is servant leadership. This important concept was the topic of the retreat for all faculty and staff at the beginning of the school year, and is the source of the monthly focus for all schools. The servant leadership attribute that we are emphasizing in the month of September is SERVICE.

Professional Development

Our literacy initiative will be the focus of our September 23 in-service day. We will assess where we are and use research based best practices to determine where we need to go. All teachers are teachers of literacy so we will also begin exploring discipline literacy. The in-service is being facilitated by Erin Loritz, Literacy Coordinator from CESA 6.

We will also have some time on September 23 to work with Community Liaison Officer Jason Weber of the Village of Fox Crossing & Town of Menasha. Officer Weber will work with us to review safety protocols for our schools.

New Teacher Orientation

Initial educators (teachers in their first year of teaching) are attending training offered through the diocese. They will work on their PDP (Professional Development Plan) for licensure and the methods component of Foundational Catechetical Certification.

MAP testing has started for students. In addition to testing grades 1-8, we added kindergarten this year. We know that early intervention is helpful to student success.

PLTW Partner Team held a very productive inaugural meeting in early September, and the community members and SMCS educators are enthusiastic about working together to support the program. The computer science modules are being implemented in grades 3-8 this year, and will be expanded over the next two years.

HR & Staffing

Transfers/Changes/Hires

- Karen Kain SG After School Care Provider (rehire)
- Jeana Johnson SMM long term sub for Mary Bergman
- Kari Coenen Elementary & MS teacher Spanish
- Karen Schumacher continuing as SG aide but also teaching Spanish at MS
- Caitlin Fritsch now teaching Spanish just at high school
- Sue Gullick continuing as aide but also after school care provider SMM
- Terri Boccheciamp teacher aide P3 SMM (was a sub for us)
- Shannon Hayes was a substitute now extended care SM

United Way campaign exceeded expectations, with approximately 25% of SMCS faculty and staff contributing \$3,663 to the annual fund drive.

Enrollment for 2016-17 is at 883, with 71 new students in grades K-12; (139 total new students including preschool). The SMCS Enrollment Comparison handout can be referenced for additional data information.

Fine Arts Corporate & Friends Sponsorship

Over \$28,000 has been raised from our corporate and friend sponsorships. Thank you to our entire community for supporting SMCS fine arts.

As part of our sponsorship, a "PAC style" program booklet will be created to promote our Fine Arts activities and includes advertising from our sponsors. The booklet will debut at Family Feud, and will be used throughout the year in our FAEC with an insert for different shows.

Fine Arts Fundraising Event - Family Feud

Saturday, October 15 at 6:00 p.m., the FAEC will host Family Feud, a fundraising event with teacher and student teams facing-off against each other from the elementary, middle, and high schools. Team members are set; we need everyone to help market the event through word of mouth. Please help us by asking your friends and families to join us!

Choir and Band

The choir and band are ramping up their performances and will showcase their talent at Connect 5, Homecoming, and Jumbo Gumbo over the next two months. On October 14, there will be a middle school band night at the football game for all feeder middle school students.

Menasha Rotary presented SMCS Fine Arts/Choir & Band with a \$5,000 donation from their *Symphony on the Rocks*. The dollars will be used to fund operational costs connected to the choir program.

"Gallery Hall" @ the FAEC

Starting in October, we are expanding our art shows with a new show each month in the hallway and lobby of the FAEC.

Business Services: Technology-Finance-Food Service

Technology

- Rolled out the technology for the new school year with relatively limited problems
- Working with PLTW team to provide technical tools for the program.
- Installed, programmed and trained new copier/printers at high school, middle school, St. Gabriel and St. Margaret Mary (St Mary Parish owns the copier/printer there). New vendor - Oshkosh Office Systems

Business Services

- New report required: Functional Expense Allocations - each budget line item needs to be broken down for program, management or fund raising costs
- Tuition Assistance – finalizing accounts needing last minute adjustments due to parents without vouchers, discussions with parishes and changes in final distributions dollars from endowment funds
- Continuing to close the fiscal year and working with auditors – final report expected Oct 1 for approval and final presentation to the board/finance committee October 19.
- Fund raisers: Meet Me in the Middle – took support level to the next step with night-off registrations and checkout using our Greater Giving registration software. Both business and technology staff on site for event. Getting better with each event.

Fund Development

Annual Fund campaign was kicked off this year at the faculty and staff retreat in August. Doing a lot of work on alumni plans to support AF; an AF cabinet committee involving alumni will meet early October.

Long-range giving plans: the past 30 days have been productive to long-term giving plans (several 'in the works')

Meet Me In The Middle: BBQ & Bluegrass was held Friday, September 16. Final amount not confirmed yet, but should be close to \$20,000 again. A good turnout, entertaining music, and fabulous food made for an enjoyable evening.