



February 8, 2010

Dear St. Charles School Alumni, Parents and Friends:

As the new Principal at St. Charles School I am still somewhat amazed at the commitment this community has shown to its school ministry. This support has come not only from current families but alumni and non-school families alike. Trust me, this level of support is indeed rare and says volumes about your community. Your actions demonstrate the value you place in Catholic Education, an education which is Christ centered and true to the social teachings of our faith.

In spite of your much appreciated support in the past, financial challenges facing us continue to be formidable. Catholic schools will continue to be faced with significant issues related to resources and program development. Surely, the face of Catholic education will change in future years in terms of structure and organization. We must maintain a position of strength as these changes occur.

St. Charles School is a vital component of our Parish. In a very real sense it not only represents the present but the future as well. As educators, our role is to develop the whole child; spiritually, academically and socially. We believe that our mission continues to be successful as our children leave St. Charles with both solid academic skills and a deep sense of spirituality.

We continue to need your assistance as we are committed to meeting ever increasing programmatic demands. We have a responsibility to our students that they receive programs, services, and opportunities comparable to the public sector. This surely is a challenge, but our children are the foundation of our future, can there be any better investment?

It is with the above in mind that we introduce the *Annual School Development Fund*. Your tax deductible charitable contribution will be applied directly to the school's operating budget. Our goal for the 2010 School Year is 40,000. As this Annual School Development Fund becomes an established fundraiser, it will result in improved services, increase in student enrollment, controlled tuition fees, and possible reduced parish subsidy. Your generous gift will help provide a great school with a solid financial foundation today and tomorrow. This truly is a win-win situation for all concerned.

Currently, school families contribute approximately 58% of the total school operational costs through tuition and fundraising. The School Development Fund will not lessen the need for other fundraisers. There will be a need for school families to participate in three major fundraisers each year: SCRIP, the Auction, and the **Annual School Development Fund**.

In a time when other schools may be consolidating or reducing services, we are doing quite the opposite. St. Charles is expanding services as demonstrated by the initiation of our *Little Saints Preschool* for next school year (3K, 4K, 5K Options). Clearly, it is our intent to position ourselves as a premiere school in the Waukesha County area.

Thank you for all you have done in the past and for all you will do in the future. We continue to be grateful as we strive for continuous improvement. Your donation with a gift in any amount will help us reach our goal.

*St. Charles School...Rich in Tradition and Excellence,  
Moving forward with a Bold Vision!*

Sincerely,

Michael Halstead, Principal

Enclosure