



A Good Start, A Bright Future! **Faustin Weber, Principal**

Historical perspective is helpful. I was hired in 2015 the year before the school opened, and as I visited the homes of families to invite them to enroll their children here, I could not show them visuals of the building, as it wasn't yet built, nor introduce the faculty, who had not been hired, nor provide details on the curriculum, which was not yet established. All I could really discuss was the vision: that we wanted to be a school that that asked kids to commit to excellence, that didn't make excuses, that wanted them to be holy, that aimed for "great hearts and great minds to do great things. "

I am so grateful to the parents and students in these first four years who took the chance on us, and I am incredibly proud of the school we've all created, together. I am blessed to work with incredible leaders, incredible teachers, incredible coaches, incredible families, and most of all, incredible young men and women.

As we were bold in our founding, **so must we continue to be bold for our future, confident in the magnificent work God can do here in the lives of our students and families!** In everything we do—in the classrooms, on the playing fields, in the music halls or art studios—we must ask students, teachers and coaches to get better each year, aiming at excellence.

We're 'full steam ahead' on the field house as the first step in our athletic capital development. It will include a weight room, locker rooms, coaches' offices, an athletic training office and multi-use room, and we hope to begin construction this spring.

We accept the challenges of competing as an excellent school with other excellent schools. We accept the challenge of playing at the 4A level in athletics. Competition makes us stronger, so our attitude is—to be succinct—"Bring It!"

This summer, we will host "Camp Cardinal," the first time we'll sponsor a full-blown summer camp program for a variety of ages, complete with sporting clinics, academic opportunities, and other fun activities. I've asked Mr. Paul Saboe from our History department to lead the camp. Mr. Saboe directed summer camps at my previous school, Pope John Paul II, and he does a great job! Look for more information and sign-ups in late January/early February. Should be a lot of fun!

I look forward to working with the Advisory Council to create our 5-Year Strategic Plan, and believe this plan will reflect the creativity and audacity that has marked us from the beginning. In the mean time, I am happy about the steps we're taking for next year, as outlined in this document.

Success, like failure, has a ripple effect. What is truly exciting is that St. Michael's growth is impacting growth in our three Baldwin County Catholic middle schools, as more parents are choosing a 7-12 and a K-12 Catholic school experience for their children.

We rejoice in all that God has done for us! As we look toward 2020, we pray that God will continue to bless us, and give us the vision, the passion and the commitment to stay true to our mission, to build "scholars, leaders and disciples of Jesus Christ. "

Onward and upward!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Faustin N. Weber". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'F'.

Faustin N. Weber
Principal