



ST. FRANCIS

CATHOLIC CHURCH AND SCHOOL

Office of the Principal

November 1, 2021

Dear Parents:

It was so great seeing all of you last week for conferences. This is a time to reflect on students' academic, social, and emotional well-being. Thank you for acknowledging how wonderful the teachers at St. Francis are. These teachers work hard each day and have welcomed the growth, challenges, and changes this school year has brought. Thank you to the PSO for spoiling us with sandwiches, fruit, and beverages. We appreciated it!

What an outstanding auction and time spent gathering together as a community. Thank you to Mr. and Mrs. Cordell, Mrs. Cowan, and all of you for your hard work and commitment to St. Francis Catholic School. The paddle bid has enabled us to start the addition in the music room and to order interactive projectors for Kindergarten, the art room, the music room, and the PreK room. Hopefully, we will be receiving and installing them in January. Additionally, we ordered ten more Chromebooks to be added to our Chromebook cart. These additional Chromebooks will be used in grades K-5 for station rotation during mathematics and reading centers. Thank you, thank you, thank you for your generosity! Once the auction committee finalizes its checks and balances we will let you know the final amount raised to offset our budget.

This school year St. Francis Catholic School will be receiving \$2,560 in Title II funds from the Sherwood School District. These funds will be used for professional development in reading literacy and individual workshops to serve all learners. Additionally, St. Francis received \$15,000.00 from the John Tami Marick Foundation (JTMF). This generous gift will go towards next year's tuition assistance, which will be matched by the Weston Foundation. This is the first time St. Francis has received this grant from the JTMF Foundation. We are hoping to continue our partnership in providing a Catholic education for all families that need assistance. It is our mission not to deny any family due to financial needs.

At Back to School Night, Mr. Wangler, Business Manager, announced the playground update. The funds to be used have been restricted for four years. We explored an additional playground structure for grades K-8 near the Gaga Ball pit and/or adding/removing the swing set, which is grandfathered in to the structure, nevertheless, that was way beyond the funds allocated and permits needed. What is within the budget are two commercial-grade basketball hoops, steel backboards in white, galvanized steel posts, powder coated steel hoops with nets, and a playground structure for the PreK playground (see attachment).

Starting November 3rd, we will have a student-teacher volunteer, Ms. Maddie Bailey, to assist in grades first through fifth four days per week. Ms. Bailey graduated from the University of Oregon in education. She will enroll in Portland State University to complete her Masters in Education. In the meantime, Ms. Bailey will be volunteering at St. Francis. We are blessed to have Ms. Bailey and are excited to assist her in her education journey.

The Parent Service Organization, PSO, has worked diligently this school year in mentoring families, in organizing events, and keeping the spirit of St. Francis alive! Ms. Sarah Jordan, Chair of PSO, is working effectively and harmoniously with the members of PSO to make this school year a success. New members and/or positions added to PSO are:

- Vice President, Erica Hass
- Treasurer, Michelle Hill
- Family Feature Lead, Katie Coleman

Mr. Bill O'Sullivan, School Advisory President, has added new members to the School Advisory Council. Mr. O'Sullivan's ambition and dedication to St. Francis has not gone unnoticed. He continues to help in all areas of the school and parish. New members and roles to SAC are:

- B.J. Parks, Technology Safety/Legal Representation
- Jade Priest-Maoz, Endowment Marketing/Legal Representation
- Candace Brogren, Strategic Marketing Strategies
- Todd Bowman, Curriculum Consultation

Both committees and all of you are essential in the framework of our school and it is with your assistance we are able to educate all learners!

As our lives are different from last year, we have many things to be thankful for and there is so much that remains the same, our commitment to the high achievement of all learners' academic, emotional, and social well-being.

God bless and stay well,
Ms. Gonzalez
Principal