



# SCHOOL BOARD NEWS

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK... SHERRY LEWIS

### Board Members

Christopher Smith - Chair  
Tania Yee - Vice Chair  
Stephanie Pruitt - Secretary  
Father Phil O'Kennedy  
Sherry Lewis  
Susan Abell  
Greg Arnold  
Irma Tudor  
Tony Concurso  
Jennifer English

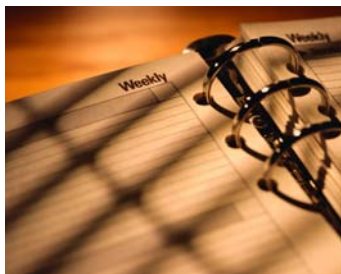
The 2010-2011 school year has brought about some major technological enhancements to St. John's school. Some classrooms have been able to add smart board technology to their daily curriculum, by allow the students and teachers to use multimedia learning tools, while capturing notes, student responses, and more. The St. John's website has also been re-designed. Please take a moment to review the new site; it provides a positive impression of the school and



helps to make navigation easier for all who use the site. This year also brought he addition of the Pre-K program to St. John's. This full-time program is at full enrollment with 15 students. They have

a core curriculum that they follow, and they also include fun additions to this curriculum, such as silly hat day and pajama days!

A Before-Aftercare Manager and a part-time Handyman have be added to the school staff. The Before-Aftercare Manager will administer the program that has grown from less than 40 students to over 100 participants. The part-time handyman will aid in repairs and long term maintenance planning.



## ADVENT: A TIME FOR PREPARATION

As we move into the Advent season, we are in expectant waiting for the Christ child. There are many ways that we can enhance the Advent season by the addition of prayer, Advent wreaths and discussions on the true meaning of Christmas. While children are understandably excited about the prospect of Santa and the holiday festivities, it is important to reinforce the true meaning of Christmas in the home.

Adding a Nativity season under your tree, or lighting a weekly candle around the family's Advent wreath are examples of taking time to prepare for the coming of Jesus. In the classrooms, Advent is a focus as well. Some examples of classroom activities include lighting an Advent wreath, making paper candles and placing a piece of straw in the classroom manger, as a reward for doing a good deed. There are visual reinforcements around the

school campus as well, through board and tabletop displays. Attend Sunday Mass as a family, discussing the readings with your children before or after Mass to help reinforce the teachings, sharing in daily Advent prayers and deciding as a family how you can help those in need. These are only a few examples of how you and your children can grow spiritually and celebrate our Catholic faith.

### Upcoming Events

- 1/5 Re-registration for currently enrolled families
- 1/10 School Board Meeting
- 1/21 Taste of Kindergarten
- 1/21 Open registration
- 1/30 Open House
- 1/30 Catholic Schools Week begins

### Mission Statement

St. John the Baptist Catholic School is committed to Catholic Formation and academic excellence, preparing students to be productive citizens and faith-filled servants of God.

[www.stjohnb.com](http://www.stjohnb.com)

## PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE: CHAIR TANIA YEE

The Public Relations Committee was at work again in the Madison community. In October, the committee, along with many wonderful volunteers, hosted a tent at the Madison Street Festival. Balloons, pencils, pens and

information about St. John's Catholic School were provided to Street Festival attendees.

Additional projects included sending Christmas cards created by St John's students

to preschool and Kindergarten RE students, continuing our parish-wide postcard mailings to newly baptized and 3 and 4 year olds and submitting various articles to the One Voice and local papers.

## DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE: CHAIRS CHRIS SMITH/TANIA YEE

The Development Committee recently hosted the annual Grandparents' Day at St. John's school. The event hosted nearly 100 grandparents this year, who

spent time with their grandchildren at the Scholastic Book Fair. The Development Committee, with the help of the PTO Hospitality Committee, provided light

breakfast foods to the grandparents. The committees, with the help of other volunteers, were on hand to answer any questions and greet grandparents. Smiles were abundant!