

September 2008

Parents of St. John the Baptist Catholic School,

On behalf of the St. John's School Board, I would like to welcome you and your family to the start of the 2008-2009 school year. I hope your child(ren) have settled in and are enjoying the start of their spiritual and academic journey. St. John's has much to teach your children, but the most valuable lessons involve their spirituality. On a daily basis, your children are taught about God, learn about their Catholic faith and learn how to live by Gospel values. These lessons are building the foundation your children will stand upon as they progress through the coming years. Thank you for allowing St. John's to provide this special gift to your child(ren).

Many dedicated individuals are needed to create a well-rounded learning environment at St. John's. Without these gifted people, our children would not grow spiritually, academically or physically and our school would not continue to grow and prosper. I would like to thank all of those devoted people who make the idea of St. John's school possible: our Pastor, our faculty and staff and the countless parent volunteers who serve on our various boards, committees, projects and daily tasks. There are many sacrifices made on the part of these people and we are blessed to have them as part of the St. John's family.

I am honored and proud to have the chance to work closely with a group of these individuals. The St. John's School Board is energized and excited to begin our role of helping guide the school through a productive and positive school year. We have set several goals which will be accomplished through the commitment and dedication of its members. The work of the School Board is predominately performed in our four standing committees: Development, Finance, Planning and Public Relations. We are blessed to have talented and hard working members on the School Board and its four committees. Our School Board members are Father Phil O'Kennedy – Pastor, Sherry Lewis – Principal, Susan Abell – Assistant Principal, Desiree' Possel – Chair, Arlene McCormick – Vice Chair, Linda Schaaf – Secretary, Renee Bonifay, Ed Semmes, Susie Wittig and Jennifer English – PTO representative. We have set several goals for the 2008-2009 school year which include the following:

- Continue emphasizing the Catholicity and spirituality of St. John's School
- Help manage the financial stability of the school
- Actively pursue grant opportunities for the continued development of our school, teachers and students
- Create a website focusing on additional information regarding the Educational Foundation and development opportunities
- Establish a strategic plan to help guide St John's School toward future goals and objectives

- Continue school publicity and marketing through such endeavors as the Madison Street Festival, weekly church bulletin articles, Taste of Kindergarten, Open House, mailings to Parish preschool children, submission of articles to local papers and the One Voice, contacting interested and new school families through phone calls and cards, and creating/updating school information sheets

This is not an exhaustive list of our goals, but a summary of our main objectives for the year. If you are interested in learning more about the School Board, summarized versions of our monthly meeting minutes are listed on the school website. I am looking forward to implementing these goals with the help of the School Board and its committees and eager to see the outcome. With God's guidance and the dedicated community at St. John the Baptist Catholic School, our children can look forward to a fantastic year.

God's blessing for a memorable year,

Desiree' Possel  
St. John's School Board Chair