

MICHAEL COLABUFO
Superintendent

January 21, 2009

Dear Parents of Students Attending a Catholic School,

Thank You!

Thank you for the sacrifices you make in your commitment to Catholic Education and please know that your sacrifices do not go unnoticed by Bishop Moynihan, the Tuition Committee nor by me. We realize the strain on household budgets in these days of economic uncertainty. Our goal is to assist you as best we can, realizing that our schools have similar financial responsibilities. All of our schools have fixed costs that need to be factored into setting a tuition rate. These fixed costs include health care and benefit increases, utility rate increases and a modest increase in staff salaries.

Please note that the average per pupil cost is approximately \$7000. Tuition covers about 41% to 48% depending on the region and elementary level or secondary level. The remainder of the per pupil cost is paid by parish support to our Catholic schools and through development efforts of the individual schools.

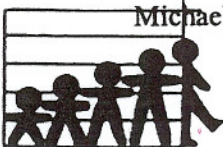
The bishop has approved the tuition committee's recommendation which is threefold, bearing in mind that we are cognizant of the economic burden by which we all are challenged.

- ✦ First, I am proud to announce that Bishop Moynihan is releasing \$150,000 from the Scuderi Endowment Fund to assist families at this difficult time. The Bishop's Aid will be awarded solely on financial need based on the FACTS application form. We ask that ALL families submit a FACTS form, no matter of your income status. Please keep in mind that this is ADDITIONAL AID over and above the already \$500,000 that is awarded annually as TAP A.
- ✦ Second, many of our schools have lowered their deposit costs for Application and Reapplication this spring. In doing this we are hoping to ease the burden of your "up front" costs at a time when you may be experiencing financial strain. Please check with your respective principal to see how you will benefit from this.
- ✦ The tuition increase for the 2009 – 2010 school year will be \$275 for the first child. Although we anticipated an even higher increase, this figure seemed prudent given the difficult times that we all face.

Lastly, I urge you to reapply or apply for the 2009 – 2010 school year by March 15th. The earlier we know of the student enrollment in our schools the better we can prepare our budgets for staffing, instructional materials and for operational costs.

Continue to make Catholic education a priority in your home.

Yours in Christ,
Michael Colabufu



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