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THE HAMPING

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## Office of the Principal

June 28, 2024

My dear Parents,

Having these summer days with a temporarily quiet building, there has actually been quality time to *"Be still and know that I am your God"*. The words of the psalmist simply underscore the fact that all that we have and all that we do is securely in God's hands. His plan may or may not be exactly what we have in mind, and we certainly may question what emerges. At the same time, our own *stillness and openness* to "the plan" will serve us well both personally and as a school community.

During the past two years, we have set as attainable goals for OLH the securing of the services of an on-site counselor, restoring the teaching of Spanish in grades K-4, adding the every day services of a Spanish-speaking office assistant. In addition, we have supported the addition of a professional band instructor at no cost to parents for the instrumental music program. Along the way, the quest for adequate office facilities for the counselor, a treasurer. a meeting room and appropriate reception area has continued, with good news on that front!

Many of you know about our dream (since 2006) to, one day, be able to annex the quaint "yellow house" adjacent to the south side of the school. Our School Board is now pleased to share: A foundation established by a special friend and longtime benefactor of OLH (now deceased) has acquired title (and control) of the property adjacent to the School, commonly referred to as the "Yellow House." No School funds were used for this acquisition. The OLH School Board is work-ing closely with the foundation to develop plans for the use of the property and potential expansion of our facility.

While the achievement of the entire vision will take at least two years, interior work will begin this week as we modify office space and re-create a special entrance/security booth in the front hall. A multi-stage plan is being formulated to maximize the property. This will be shared as it develops. Please join us in grateful prayers for the people involved in this tremendous milestone!

For those who have been with us from the beginning (including 28 current parents who spent their elementary years at OLH), the progress we have been able to make is obvious. For those who are relatively new , we urge you to visualize OLH..... MINUS the second floor, dance room, gym, upgraded auditorium, Prep wing, playground.

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need you to know that funds for each of these projects did NOT come from tuition or extensive fund raising. Being able to develop a base of support from benefactors and parishioners has made "the impossible" a reality!

We pray that we will continue to find people who really believe in Catholic education...and especially Our Lady of the Hamptons! Our families are very important to us, with each child a special reason for our existence. We know the demands made on our parents and cannot expect major contributions over and above the responsibility for tuition , but do ask that you please spread the word among friends and family who MAY be in a position to point us in the direction of people and foundations that might be able to make an investment in the future at OLH! (As you must know, I am never afraid to reach out to potential sources by mail, phone call or in-person meetings! Help from benefactors outside the school itself is what has made building possible in 1998, 2010, 2019....Why not 2024?)

During the past months, we have been made painfully aware of the escalating costs of everything from food to housing to everyday services and utilities. After many years of very minimal salary increases in diocesan teacher salaries, our professionals are receiving five percent raises. This still cannot adequately compensate these well-prepared, good people. Additionally, we are seeing insurance premiums, utilities and needed supplies averaging between five and twelve percent.

After much deliberation and consideration of the 2024-25 budget, the pastors and School Board have approved a necessary increase in tuition and fees. Attempting to hold the increase down, we remond you that we do need to supplement this with fund raising activities during the year, including Buicks foir Books and the Ladies Luncheon among them.

The tuition this year INCLUDES fees for Chromebooks, Science, Art, Library. The tuition REFLECTS a donation of the supporting parishes of \$500 for each family. Those who are NOT registered will be billed an additional \$500)
\*\*\*\*VERIFICATION OF PARISH SUPPORT IS REQUIRED PRIOR TO AUGUST 15
IN ORDER TO QUALIFY FOR THE IN-PARISH TUITION

## **REGISTERED, SUPPORTING (with pastor approval card) PARISHIONER**

Our Lady of Poland, Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary, St. Rosalie, Most Holy Trinity,Our Lady of the Isle,<br/>1st child \$7500St. Andrew,<br/>2nd child \$5625St. Rosalie, Most Holy Trinity,<br/>Queen of the Most Holy Rosary<br/>Each additional child \$3750

## NON-REGISTERED CATHOLICS and NON-CATHOLICS

1st child \$80002nd child \$6025Each additional child \$4000

GENERAL FEES (Each Child K-8)ADDITIONAL \$20 INSURANCE FEE\$100 religion text and testing fees8th grade GRADUATIONFEE \$300(includes all graduation expenses, Regents Biology lab work )

**PRE-SCHOOL** 4 year old 5 full days \$6000 (all supplies are included) 3 YEAR OLD....2 HALF DAYS EACH WEEK \$3000

Please be assured of my care and love for each of you. The road ahead will have its challenges, but TOGETHER we can make it be smooth! Please keep me in your prayers as well. YOU are, indeed, part of "His plan". Let's get some rest this summer and embrace the challenges that lie ahead! It will be wonderful having everyone back where "we belong"

Peace always,

Sister Kathy