

Isn't That Special?



I'm frequently asked what is special about our school. It's easy to answer that when comparing ourselves to public schools, but what sets us apart from other Catholic schools? I would like to say that our people, students, staff, and parents are amazing people, but every school principal probably says that. So, what is special about our school? What can I say?

Well, one of the things that is definitely different about St. Columbkille is our tuition. We have the lowest tuition, by far, of any of the suburban metro schools. And why is that? I think it comes back to the stewardship model of our parish and school. Many of our people give tremendously of their time, treasure, and talent.

How is it that our school only charges \$1,575 tuition for a year when other Catholic schools are charging nearly twice that much or more? First of all, we really do have amazing and generous people here. I'm talking about people who do more than just talk. They put their money where their mouth is. Second, we're very frugal. We don't waste a lot. And third, we have a lot of generous groups that support us financially. We have groups that provide tuition assistance for many of our families that need some extra help. Our Saint Columbkille Educational Trust Fund supplies a nice chunk of money every year for that purpose. In addition we receive very nice donations from the Shepherds and the Knights of Columbus for tuition assistance. Please support these organizations, along with other parish groups, whenever you can.

Another organization that we could not survive without is your own **Home & School Association**. Each year they raise thousands of dollars for your school. Not only does this help keep tuition low, but it also provides us with technology, instructional materials, and other supplies and equipment which improve the educational experience of our students. I say this with all honesty and sincerity, ***we could not provide the education we do without H.S.A!***

This is the time of year that the H.S.A. folks conduct their biggest fundraiser, the Walk-A-Thon. I ask you to give generously this year. Also, please consider asking relatives if they would like to donate to your children's school. I've said previously that I like to donate money every year to my grandchildren's education. Don't automatically dismiss your children's grandparents as possible donors to the H.S.A. fundraiser. Some of them may be considering different charities and they may prefer to donate to something that they know will help their own grandchildren. As a grandpa myself, I know that I like to do that.

If you would like to donate to the H.S.A. Walk-A-Thon Fundraiser, you can click on the "Walk-a-Thon" button on the homepage of this website. Or, if you prefer, you can send a check to the school made out to "H.S.A. Walk-a-thon."

As always, it is our mission at St. Columbkille Catholic School to grow in spirit, mind, and body as disciples of Christ.

In His service,

Jim Makey
Principal