



May 20, 2008

Dear Parents, Principals and Staff Members,

The school year 2007-2008 is rapidly drawing to a close. Students, teachers and administrators have focused on Catholic identity and academic excellence as the mission of each Catholic school. The lessons learned in the classrooms will last for a lifetime, as will our Catholic faith.

Our students have achieved many honors this year including over \$15,000,000 in scholarships. The seniors from our two high schools will be attending ninety-three colleges/universities. Fifty-eight percent of our seniors will be staying in North Carolina, with forty percent venturing to other states. One student will attend college in Canada and one foreign-exchange student is returning home. Ninety-six percent of our seniors will be attending 4-year institutions. Three percent will attend 2-year colleges and five students are joining the military service after graduation. Congratulations to our seniors. May God continue to guide all of them in their future journeys.

We congratulate the faculty and staff of Bishop Mc Guinness and Charlotte Catholic, as well as the elementary feeder schools, for preparing the students so well for their college years.

Congratulations to senior Brian Cristante, who received a perfect score on the 2008 National Latin Exam. He joins only 1,061 students out of 135,000 who took the exam. The students tested represented twelve nations.

Congratulations to: Angeline Morales, Alex Pratt, Meghan Santschi, Christopher Anderson, Brooke Dandurand and Danielle Morlando, our MACS Academic Games Team, who competed in the national contest in Florida. The six students from Saint Patrick and OLA combined to form a team representing MACS. One team won 2nd place (out of 60 teams) in the "Presidents" competition. The other team finished in 7th place (out of 60) in the "Propaganda" competition. Individual awards winners were:

- Meghan Santschi (OLA)-6th place in "Propaganda" (out of 300 students)
- Angeline Morales (OLA)-8th place in "Presidents" (out of 269 students)
- Christopher Anderson (St. Patrick)-8th place in "Presidents" (out of 269 students)

Congratulations to Charlotte Catholic's Symphonic Band, for their Superior ratings at the NC Central District Festival. Our CCHS Concert Band received an Excellent rating at the same competition. Seven band members were selected for membership in the 2008 NC All-State Band. Congratulations to: James Kressner, John Luttrell, Hilary Sharp, Brian Geiger, Erick Kopfle, Keagan Maryman and Eric Gleeson.

If you attended the High School band concert on Sunday evening, you saw several of our students conducting the band for an arrangement. Special congratulations to Brian Geiger for composing an original piece, which he also directed.

Thank you to Sister Seldita Tiorosio, principal at Sacred Heart in Salisbury, for her service to the school. Sister Seldita will be returning to the Philippines in the fall. Thank you, also, to Sister Helene Nagle. Sister Helene is retiring after twenty years of service in the Diocese. Following three years of teaching at Saint Leo in Winston-Salem, she completed seventeen years as principal of Saint Ann in Charlotte. We wish both of them happiness and joy in their new endeavors.

The first phase of the Diocesan Study for School Expansion is now completed. The consultants have finished the information-gathering/research phase and are preparing for the next phase. Phase 2 comprises analysis of all data as well as detailed/focused surveys in areas with expressed need. You will receive more information on Phase 2 as the 08-09 school year unfolds. The study is scheduled for completion no later than March 2009

As the last few weeks of the school year lie ahead, I thank all of you for your contributions to the students within the MACS system. Our Catholic system of schools is the best. It takes many people to make a successful school and all of you are part of this success.

May you fill your summer with family, friends, relaxation, safety and peace. God bless and watch over all until you return in the fall.

Sincerely,



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