



Mission Statement

“...to ensure that the children in the Diocese of Beaumont develop spiritually, intellectually, physically, and emotionally to their fullest potential so that they may help shape society according to the Catholic values which we cherish.”

DIOCESE OF BEAUMONT

OFFICE OF CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

VOLUME 1, NUMBER 5

MAY 2009

**I am a little pencil in God’s hands.
Jesus is the truth to be told, the way to be walked,
the light to be lit, and the life to be lived.**

Mother Teresa, Jesus

**May your summer months provide opportunities
for your light to be lit renewing your heart for the
continued ministry of “being a little pencil in God’s
hands.”**

We Need Catholic Schools!

By Superintendent, Nancy Collins

In the recent issue of the NCEA magazine, Momentum, there is an article titled, We Need Catholic Schools! The article is actually the remarks made by Cardinal Zenon Grocholewski, prefect of the Vatican’s Congregation for Education, as he accepted Fordham University’s Catholic School Leadership Award. Here is some of what he said.

The weakest area of education today is values – We need Catholic schools that build on values, values that can renew the face of the earth.

A secular education only takes into consideration life in this world, the deceptive happiness here on earth. We need Catholic schools that situate us within the full truth of our existence and prepare us for the eternal dimension.

A crucial problem in education today is the crisis of the family. We need Catholic schools that make a priority of the family that keep in mind the family’s needs, and defends its dignity.

We need Catholic schools that concern themselves

with the integral education of the human person in all his or her dimensions: human, intellectual, spiritual, religious, cultural and professional.

We need Catholic schools that teach respect toward each person; that teach love, forgiveness, reconciliation and dialogue.

For the full text: ask your principal for the April/May copy of Momentum.

Calendar:

Friday, May 15:
SACBS Splash Day
Early Childhood

Sat., May 16:
SACBS 8th Grade
Trip to Walt Disney
World

Sunday, May 17:
OMOM 100th Year
Celebration Picnic
@ Fellowship Park
2:00 pm

Tuesday, May 19:
PGC @ DPC 6-9pm

Wed, May 20:
SAS 8th Grade Trip
to Schlitterban/Gal.

Thurs, May 21:
OMOM Pre-K 3 & 4
Closing Ceremony

Thurs, May 21:
SCS Pre-K & K
Graduation

Thurs, May 21:
SAS 9:00am 5th
Grade Field Trip to
Port of Beaumont

Thurs, May 21:
SAS 6:00pm 8th
Grade Dinner
Dance @ Beaumont
Country Club

PERSONNEL

MINISTRY OPENINGS:

As you become aware of teacher openings for 2009-2010, forward the information to Beverly Escamilla at bescamilla@dioceseofbmt.org. This information will be posted on the Diocesan website employment section.

DEFICIENCY REMOVAL:

Just a reminder, as you hire new personnel, please use the TCCED deficiency forms as needed. Make sure **before** you issue a new contract all **deficiency hours** have been **fulfilled**.

HEALTH

Update on School (K-12) and Childcare Facilities: Interim CDC Guidance in Response to Human Infections with the Novel Influenza A (H1N1) Virus

Recommendations:

- ◇ School closure is not advised for a suspected or confirmed case of novel influenza A (H1N1) and, in general, is not advised unless there is a magnitude of faculty or student absenteeism that interferes with the school's ability to function.
- ◇ Students, faculty or staff with influenza-like illness (fever with a cough or sore throat) should stay home and not attend school or go into the community except to seek medical care for at least 7 days even if symptoms resolve sooner.
- ◇ Parents and guardians should monitor their school-aged children, and faculty and staff should self-monitor every morning for symptoms of influenza-like illness.
- ◇ Students, faculty and staff should stringently follow sanitary measures to reduce the spread of influenza, including covering their nose and mouth with a tissue when coughing or sneezing (or coughing or sneezing into their sleeve if a tissue isn't available), frequently washing hands with soap and water, or using hand sanitizer if hand washing with soap and water is not possible.

Further guidance can be found at:

http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/swineflu_you.htm

ADMINISTRATION

Research Study - During the 2009-2010 academic year Diane Starkovich, former Ft. Worth Associate Superintendent, will be conducting a formal dissertation research study on the TCCED accreditation model. Nancy Collins has given permission for Diane to contact elementary principals in the Diocese to participate in the study. Elementary principals will be contacted during the upcoming school year. The title of Diane's dissertation is *The Relationship between the Accreditation Process and Efforts for Continuous Improvement in Texas Catholic Elementary Schools*.

Calendar:

Friday, May 22:
SAS 9am Kindergarten celebration in cafeteria

Friday, May 22:
SAS 11am 8th Grade Awards in Parish Hall

Friday, May 22:
MKCHS 7:00pm Baccalaureate Mass St. Anthony Basilica

Sat., May 23:
MKCHS 4:00pm Graduation @ Beaumont Civic Ctr

Sat., May 23:
SAS, SACBS, SCS, SMS 8th Grade Graduation

Mon., May 25
Memorial Day Holiday—All Schools Closed

Tues., May 26
SACBS Early Childhood End of Year Program 10am Gym

Tues., May 26
SAS Field Day Pre K-1st in AM

Tues., May 26
SAS Field Day Grades 2-4 in PM

Wed., May 27
1pm OMOM K Graduation

CELEBRATING EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION & STEWARDSHIP

Msgr. Kelly Catholic High School

Teacher of the Year
Stewardship

Roy Bares
Milt Prewitt

Special Recognition:

Texas A&M High School Teacher of the Year

Cherie Warner

Reaud Excellence in Education Awards

Maryann DeMayo

Our Mother of Mercy School

Teacher of the Year
Stewardship
Retirees

Mary Gloude
Mr. Elacy Junious
Dolores Fulton

St. Anne Catholic School

Teacher of the Year
Teacher of the Year
Stewardship
Retirees

Dee Schmidt
Cathy Soberon
Anna Scheurich
Kathy Attaway

St. Anthony Cathedral Basilica School

Teacher of the Year
Teacher of the Year
Stewardship

Rebecca Phillips
Charles Baldwin
Paul Conrad

St. Catherine Catholic School

Teacher of the Year
Stewardship
Retirees

Diana Sims
Emily Rueda
Walter Bouillion

St. Mary Catholic School

Teacher of the Year
Teacher of the Year
Stewardship

Melissa Pousson
Nancy Rendall
Joseph Gonzales

Grant Due Dates:

Abell-Hanger Found.

None<http://www.abell-hanger.org>

Bridgestone Firestone

None www.bridgestone-firestone.com/trustfund.asp

Cora Foundation

Nonewww.corafoundation.org

DeVos Foundation

None suev@rdvcorp.com

Frank J. Lewis Foundation

None

Watson Charitable Foundation

None

Brackenridge Found.

None

Alkek Foundation

None

Samuel J. and Connie Frankino Foundation

January 1

Pocono Charitable Foundation

None

The Henry Parsons Crowell & Susan Coleman Crowell Trust

None<http://www.crowelltrust.org>

Rogers Foundation (Texas)

Oct. 1

Airborne Teacher Trust Fund

Quarterly

Dollar General Youth Literacy Grants

May 22, 2009

James R. Dougherty Foundation, Inc.

Sept. 1 & March 1

Meadows Foundation

None

DEVELOPMENT NEWS:

VERY IMPORTANT INFORMATION!

It has been brought to my attention that if you go to Google maps you will be able to read reviews of schools available. The web address is <http://maps.google.com/>. These reviews come from <http://www.greatschools.net>. Please go out and read the reviews that have been submitted about your school. If the reviews are not favorable, please encourage students and parents to submit a review about their wonderful experiences. If you have students that have excelled, received honors and other, post that information. Principals you can add information to keep your reviews / information updated.

TECHNOLOGY

WORTH A LOOK:

High School Students will love this *free* multidisciplinary project through which they apply science, math, engineering and technology skills. NASA provides a program for grades 9-12 to explore human ingenuity and STEM careers by completing the steps of a problem-solving process on the **Hubble Space Telescope**. The complete version is 15 to 20 sessions over 3 to 4 weeks using independent research. <http://www.hubble-sightinsight.com>

Make your end-of-year planning easier with the *free* **PBS Teacher Activity Packs**, a set of themed resources and activities packaged in a widget-format. Each pack includes links to PBS resources and activities organized by grade level. A Grab It button lets you automatically post any activity pack to a variety of media sites, such as MySpace, FaceBook, and iGoogle, or copy the embed code to post it to a school or personal Web page. <http://www.pbs.org/teachers/activitypacks>

Visit eduMedia Share to find and share educational resources in this new *free* educator community. Currently, more than 1,000 resources covering videos, images and simulations are available to tag, comment on and download. Submit your material and contribute in the eduMedia community. <http://www.edumedia-share.com>

Calendar:

Wed., May 27
7pm OMOM
Awards Night
Grades 1-6

Wed., May 27
SACBS Field Day

Wed., May 27
SCS Field Day

Wed., May 27
SAS 8:15 7th
Grade Awards Gym

Wed., May 27
SAS 9:15 5-6th
Grade Awards Gym

Wed., May 27
SAS Blue and Gold
Field Day 5-6th
Grade After Awards

Wed., May 27
SAS 10:15 3-4th
Grade Awards Gym

Thurs., May 28
SCS Awards Day

Thurs., May 28
SACBS 8:15am
Awards in Gym

Thurs., May 28
SAS 8:15 am
Closing Mass

Thurs., May 28
LAST DAY OF
SCHOOL!!!

Fri., May 29
May Crowning
SMS 8:00am

Student Accolades



Monsignor Kelly Catholic High School awards students on Monday, May 11. The Highest Ranking Students: Valedictorian, Colin Gentry, former St. Anne Student and Salutatorian, Nicole Fierce, former All Saints Student. National Merit Program Semi-finalist (students in the top 1% in the National Merit Scholarship Program), James Cobb. National Merit Program Commended Scholars: James Dishman, Nicole Fierce, Colin Gentry, and Matthew Goldberg. National Achievement Scholarship Program: Claudia Gambah and Logan Heiman. St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Religion Awards (one student per grade who is Catholic, academically strong and exhibits a “lived faith”): Elizabeth Yett, Freshman; Lucy Prewitt, Sophomore; Madeline Aldridge, Junior; and Christina Walker, Senior. Msgr. Kelly Catholic High School Principal’s Leadership Award: Jennifer Manuel. Blue and Gold Award (chosen by a committee appointed by the principal—senior student who most exemplifies the spirit of Kelly): Will Robbins.



St. Catherine of Siena Parish Appreciation Project - The 1st through 5th grade students at SCS showed their appreciation for the members of St. Catherine parish. Students sent cookies, brownies, cakes and muffins which were then divided into individual servings by the 5th grade class. The younger students colored cards and pictures which were attached to the baggies. The goodies were sent to the church to be distributed at the weekend Masses. It was a great service project for the students which would not have happened without the generosity of the parents. Thanks everyone!



St. Anne Catholic School Seventh grade student, Jase Peacock, was the winner of the Geography Bee. After completing a 70 question national test, and competing with over 500 top students from around the country, he earned a spot at the National Geography Bee State Competition in Bedford, Texas in April. As the only student from this part of Texas (the next closest from Houston area), Jase really put St. Anne on the map. Thanks and congratulations Jase!

State PSIA results are in!!! We are proud of the SAS Students who represented us at the State Level PSIA Competition at Texas Christian University in Fort Worth in April. One must medal in the top one or two places at the District Level to move on to State so that achievement alone is quite an accomplishment. To go on to medal at State is very significant as the participant is in competition with peers from around the state and from schools of all sizes. Those students medaling at State Competition were: Adele Green, 2nd place in 5th grade Listening Skills; Drew Colson, 5th place in 6th grade Listening Skills; Adam Harrison, 6th place in 6th grade Maps, Graphs and Charts; Katie Cammack, 2nd place in 6th grade Music Memory; Cameron Hah, 6th place in 4th grade Spelling; Alec Defeo, 5th place in 6th grade Spelling; Barrett Yoder, 1st place in 8th grade Spelling; Helen Gambah, 4th place in 8th grade Spelling; Christian Kimura, 4th place in 8th grade Vocabulary. Special Recognition goes to Katie Cammack for scoring 100% (15 out of 15 points) on her test in Music Memory, tied for 2nd place at State. You can't beat PERFECT! CONGRATULATIONS TO EACH OF YOU! Thank you to the parents who drove their child, coached prior to the contests and those who agreed to judge, direct or grade at the contest.

Calendar:**May 29 & 30**

Diocesan Liturgical Conference held at St. Jude FLC Conference is free to all attendees includes 5 meals! Earn CE Hours!

June 2 & 3

Office of Catholic Schools Summer Seminar @ St. Anne Parish Hall - All Schools

Tuesday, June 16

PGC @ CPC 6-9

THE INFORMATION IN THIS NEWSLETTER IS FOR THE USE OF THE ADMINISTRATORS, FACULTY, BOARDS AND PASTORS. PRINCIPALS ARE REQUESTED TO FORWARD INFORMATION TO APPROPRIATE PERSONS.

Student Accolades Cont.



Our Mother of Mercy Catholic School Texas! Our Texas! Mrs. Jane Stagg's, 4th, 5th and 6th grade Social Studies students traveled to Austin, Texas, March 25th. Representative Joseph Deshotel invited the students to visit him and learn first hand how the government works. Not only did they get a bird's eye view of the legislators in action, they were invited to have their picture taken with our representative on the floor of the House of Representatives. They toured the capital and had lunch at the historic City Café. They even saw the state flower in full bloom along the highway to Austin. The trip was rewarding to all of the students who studied the Constitution this year. W. Joe Deshotel was the informative guide throughout the day. Both Representative Deshotel and his son, W. Joe Deshotel are alumni of Our Mother of Mercy Catholic School.



St. Mary Catholic School won 6 out of 8 Awards at Shangri La!!! St. Mary students competed in an art contest sponsored by Shangri La Botanical Gardens & Nature Center in March. Elementary Division: Victoria Sawyers - 1st place, Madison Miller - 2nd place, Madeline Fuselier - 3rd place, Elizabeth Guillot - Honorable Mention. Junior High Division: Ivy Blanda - 1st place, Josh Henry - 3rd place. Ivy Blanda's design will be printed on a T-shirt that will be sold at the Shangri La Gift Shop. Victoria Sawyer's design will be printed on the cover of the Educator's Workshop Program that all teachers receive when attending a workshop at Shangri La. St. Mary Student Council Awarded Honors at Convention - The Student Council of St. Mary Catholic School received the following accolades from the Texas Association of Student Councils, District 17, Spring Convention at the Beaumont Civic Center on February 26, 2009: Outstanding Student Council, Outstanding Energy and Environment, Outstanding DASH, Outstanding Pride and Patriotism, Outstanding Community Service, Sweepstakes recognition at the state level. The advisor, Angie Smith received the Middle School Advisor of the Year Award.



St. Anthony Cathedral Basilica School Celebrated Mr. Tony Day on Wednesday, May 13, 2009. Mr. Tony was recognized at Mass for his service and dedication to our school. He works hard, but always with a smile on his face, to keep our school clean and sanitary. Students made cards, brought gifts, and sang songs to thank him for everything that he does to make St. Anthony a clean and safe place to be. Thank you Mr. Tony! St. Anthony had its annual International Day on Wednesday, April 29th. The day began by celebrating Mass with Bishop Guillory. Students and teachers dressed in garments worn by people from the different countries they each represented. All classes chose different countries to research and learn about their different customs, dress, currency, and the favorite thing of all, their food. Classes brought in foods that are found in each of their countries. All students and visitors were given passports to tour the many different countries and experience the diverse cultures. It was a great day. We would like to congratulate Paige Prevost, the winner of the Houston Chronicle Spelling Bee in Beaumont. Paige went on to compete in Houston and placed 5th overall. We are very proud of Paige for representing our school and Diocese so well. Congratulations to James Schiesler on being the recipient of the Kelly Alumni Scholarship (\$500 scholarship for an incoming freshman who is Catholic and consistently on the A/B honor roll and demonstrates leadership and service to his school). Congratulations to Elizabeth Bartilucci on being the recipient of the John & Paula Lovoi Scholarship (\$1,000 scholarship for an incoming freshman from St. Anthony) to Kelly High School. Way to go Bulldogs!