

ST. ANDREW THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Faith · Family · Education



August 17, 2016

Dear Parents,

It is with utmost gratitude and enthusiasm that I welcome you back to our school! For our returning families, I say thank you for your ongoing support; for without it we would not have such a wonderful and vibrant school. For our new families, I too say thank you. Thanks for your trust in our school and making a decision to be part of the St. Andrew the Apostle School family. As the returning families can attest, last year the School Advisory Council underwent a major transformation, creating the B.E.S.T. Plan, which was successfully used to help us set and achieve relevant goals for enhancing and growing our school. The plan had three sections that we felt were vital in our success: 1) establishing our Vision, Values and Mission; 2) creating a Strategic Objective, along with Goals and Activities; 3) Understanding and improving our Culture. This plan, while created for the school, actually helped our entire parish grow as we lived out the virtues that encompass our parish values. As a reminder, our Value Statement is:

We believe quality Catholic education calls us to integrate Gospel teachings and values with everyday life; while believing that all secular subjects need to be taught in the light of these values. These values are deeply rooted in the belief that Jesus Christ is the reason for our school and our community lives out our faith expressing the virtues of prudence, fortitude, charity, generosity, temperance, humility, and brotherly love. All, in communion with a strong sense of hospitality and belonging in everything we do.

This year, with your help, we are excited to continue down this journey as a faith-filled community and together we can look forward to another successful school year. Part of our school and parish mission, similarly to last year, will be to live out our Value Statement through the Virtues. I am grateful as your pastor to be part of such a program. I am also grateful for, and will work closely with, our principal, Mrs. Albreski, the School Advisory Council members, the staff and the countless volunteers, who have been entrusted to shepherd these teachings with our children and all who have a desire to grow closer to Christ.

Next month, we will begin by focusing on the virtue of Prudence. This month, I ask for your prayers for our school, the children served by and those called to minister to it, for a successful start of another wonderful and faith-filled year. Please keep me in your prayers, and rest assured that I will keep you in mine. I would also ask that you pray that you open your heart and reflect as to how God may be calling you to support our school with the gifts He has so generously bestowed onto you. Thanks again for all that you do for our school and parish; especially with bringing our children closer to Christ!

In the loving Hearts of Jesus and Mary,
Fr. Gregor Gorsic
Pastor

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