



OFFICE FOR SCHOOLS

NORTH SHEBOYGAN PARISHES' CATHOLIC SCHOOL UPDATE

March 16, 2011

As we begin the planning process for the new Catholic school on the north side of Sheboygan, we realize that a wide variety of information is traveling throughout the community. Beginning with this *North Sheboygan Parishes Catholic School Update*, we will publish regular communication about the planning for the new school. We hope this will help everyone to have the most up-to-date information about the process as we move forward.

WE KNOW THE TIMELINE FOR OPENING THE ONE NEW CATHOLIC SCHOOL FOR THE PARISHES ON THE NORTH SIDE OF SHEBOYGAN WAS EXTENDED FOR ONE YEAR. WHAT HAPPENS NOW?

Currently a Planning Committee made up of a representative of each parish council, each school committee and members from outside the parishes is forming to begin the planning process. Their task is to facilitate the planning process. They will not be the only ones involved in the planning. YOU will be invited to share your insights and ideas throughout the process. This can be a very exciting time as we bring all the best elements together to form an outstanding new Catholic school. The names of Planning Committee members will be published as soon as they are finalized.

HOW WILL COMMUNICATION CONTINUE?

This "Update" is being brought to you by the Archdiocesan Office for Schools. Within the next month the Planning Committee will establish a website where all can go to access the latest information. They will then be responsible for all communication. Until the website is live you will receive this printed "Update".

WE HAVE HEARD MANY COMMENTS ABOUT THE FINANCES AT EACH OF THE PARISHES. WHAT IS THE TRUE FINANCIAL PICTURE AS WE MOVE INTO THIS NEW SCHOOL?

The Finance Office of the Archdiocese will be meeting with the pastors, trustees and finance councils of all of the parishes to put together a financial profile for the community so there is clear understanding of:

- The financial picture today
- The projection for the future
- The shared cost of the new school

HOW IS THE ARCHDIOCESE INVOLVED IN THIS PROCESS?

The decision to reconfigure schools is a local decision. The Archdiocesan Office for Schools offers support services in the process of planning. Associate Superintendent, Carol Ward, will assist the Planning Committee with the process for planning to ensure that all elements of quality Catholic education are addressed. This is a support role. The Planning Committee will be your local leadership in planning.

HOW DO PARENTS PLAN FOR THE 2011-2012 SCHOOL YEAR?

Now that the timeline has been extended so that the new school will not open until the fall of 2012, enrollment at St. Dominic School and Holy Family School should continue as usual. We look forward to a wonderful school year filled with continued learning for the students. It is an important year to celebrate the blessing that each school has been and is to the parishes and community.

I HEARD NO ONE WILL ATTEND THE NEW SCHOOL

It is difficult for anyone to make a decision about where to enroll their child in 2012 when they do not have any details about the new school. As the Planning Committee coordinates the planning efforts within the community, information will be shared at each step so that parents will be able to make an informed decision about where they will choose to send their children in the 2012-2013 school year.

In the midst of all of this transition, one thing is clear. Catholic education is a deep commitment of all of these parishes. Let us keep one another in prayer as we move forward to plan for continued Catholic education on the north side of Sheboygan for years to come.