

## From the Desk of Principal D'Amico

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December 2017

Dear Parents,

This month has been filled with activities, shows, and most importantly, faith. Our students have been participating in random acts of kindness. One group of 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders were selected for the Stephen J. Falat Basket Project in New York City. They organized over 300 baskets for children with AIDS. Some of our other students in the BETA Club collected holiday mugs and have been filling them up with some holiday cheer to distribute to Hoboken Hospital. Finally, what makes the Christmas season extra special are our students participating in the various renditions of the Nativity and singing in our shows. I am proud to call these students our own. I would also like to thank you, the parents, for your support and continued participation.

We at AOLG are dedicated to providing a safe and sound education. I recently spoke to some parents at the fall Principal's Perk. A few parents gave a wonderful suggestion for the school to look into purchasing safety bollards. After the recent tragedy in New York City, I gave this much consideration. My goal is to ensure the safety of all children. I have initiated the first steps for having bollards approved with our local town. These bollards will be located all around the perimeter of the school so that no vehicle could come near the exit doors. Funding will be provided in three ways; state, SCC and the Pallottines. This project will run us close to \$41,000. We know there is no price tag when it comes to our children's' safety.

On another note, the school, parents and children have adapted well to the newly revised late policy. Your attention in this matter is sincerely appreciated. Most successful students are those who come in on time, come prepared and come to school with a full belly. Please continue to follow this policy.

This year, as Dr. Dames stated in her letter to all of us ,the students will have the *Iowa Assessment* test as their standardized testing. The Archdiocese decided not to continue with the *TerraNova* testing program. I am praying for a smooth transition. As I become updated, I will share that information with you.

I am excited to announce that starting in January we will be offering FREE math help for students in grades 5 -8 who would like additional assistance. It will be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays from dismissal to 3:45 p.m. If your child is interested, please look for an upcoming flyer in early January. Students should come to the tutoring services prepared to work and ready with questions.

We have recently been notified that Nurse Ann will be on leave. I have had Bravado Nursing Services covering for a few days to ensure the students who need medical attention are accommodated. I have also been notified that students who are not up to date with immunizations will be asked to supply those records immediately. I will keep you up to date when a nurse is hired at the school.

Many parents have concerns when it comes to potential bullying incidents. There will be a bullying workshop geared for parents on January 4<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. I hope to see you there. If it snows causing school to be closed, the workshop will be scheduled for January 9<sup>th</sup>.

Lastly, I would like to extend to you and your family a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.