

## From the Desk of Principal D'Amico

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September 2018

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to a new school year. I hope and trust you all had time to rest and share wonderful memories with your families. The staff and faculty at the Academy of Our Lady of Grace have continued to work towards updating many facets of the school. The building, technology, and curriculum have all been reviewed and enhanced. Three new Smart Boards have been placed in the school with the Scholastic points that were generated from last year's book fairs. Chromebooks for the incoming 6<sup>th</sup> graders have been purchased and are ready to go! Throughout the building, the bulletin boards have been painted, a total gym make over has been made including the refurbishing of the floors, the addition of bleachers, and the renovation of the gym bathrooms. There were over 200 kids who participated in the various programs offered this summer. Some of the students engaged in our academic camps such as the Summer Jump Start Program and Multiplication Camp. These opportunities helped to shape all children and improve their skills while having fun. Basketball and volleyball clinics were also offered to the students. I am proud to say that it truly takes teamwork to build an empire. Thank you to all the staff members and parents who were present throughout the summer months. As you can see, our building never rests.

This year, we will continue to work together towards academic, physical, and spiritual goals. Our strength is seen within all the service that our students provide to the community. The faith that our students have is deeply rooted within the culture of our school. If you are a new or returning family, I ask you to participate in our spiritual offerings. Our academic goal is to increase our math scores and awareness, and we will continue our school wide math initiative. Each day our students and teachers will focus on a common math theme for the month.

There have been some staff changes here at AOLG. Victor, our custodian who worked here for 25 years, has resigned. We will surely miss the man who was more than just a staff member. Victor was a good man who made the building run and operate smoothly. Most of all, Victor was a friendly face to all our children. We wish him well on his next stage in life. We have also had staff changes in our math and elementary language departments. I am confident that you will join me in welcoming our new members to the staff at Back to School Night. We have a wonderful line up for parents that evening on September 20<sup>th</sup>. This event is designed for you in getting to know your child's teacher and to learn about some of the wonderful programs being offered. You will also be given parent manuals and important information which will need to be returned to us. I ask that one parent attend, and unfortunately, no children are permitted. Our SCC will be distributing "World's Finest Chocolates" which is our first fundraiser of the year. This fundraiser is mandatory. Please understand that fundraisers like these help generate funds for assemblies, activities and advancements.

If you have not already done so, please make sure you sign up for FACTS. This system will be utilized this year for our aftercare billing and some other finances throughout the school year. We are working towards a goal of having limited cash carried to school through our students. It will also minimize the interruptions and distractions within our office. I guarantee that it is an easy process, and please understand we will walk you through it should you have any questions.

Lastly, the Back to school "Kick Off" is all set for this coming Friday, September 7th. I hope you can join us for a fun evening of entertainment. I would like to thank you for entrusting your children at our school, and I assure you that our staff will help in the development of all children to reach their potential and challenge them to be wonderful citizens in our community.

Welcome back,  
Mrs. D'Amico