

May 4, 2017

Dear Catholic School Families and Friends,

On behalf of the Erie Catholic School System, it is my privilege to provide our tuition costs for 2017-18, as well as highlight our progress in building our system to date. The included K-8 Tuition Information Sheet will detail the costs for each returning K-8 Erie Catholic family. I am proud to announce that no family will have tuition increased by more than \$150/child for this coming school year, with a maximum Catholic tuition rate for the first child at \$3,500. Our multi-child discount will remain, with no increase greater than \$150 per child in this formula, either. Lastly, we have included an annual per Student Fee (\$75) to eliminate mandatory costs (i.e. field trips, planners, etc.) throughout the year.

We have registered 2,218 K-8 students (over 90% of our current students re-registered) into our six campuses for the 2017-18 school year. We have set class limits for our K-3 classrooms at 25 and our 4-8 classrooms at 28. These limits, in conjunction with our strong enrollment numbers, have enabled us to open eight new classrooms across the system, bringing our average K-8 class size to under 20 students.

We are also keenly aware of the significant need for quality preschool programs. Welcome letters for those who have registered in our Erie Catholic preschools have been delivered. We have increased capacity to better serve our families, and will continue to evaluate quality and capacity across our campuses in the months ahead. Preschool tuition rates will be communicated by each school this week.

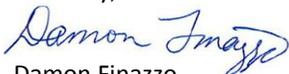
We have concluded the interview process of every current teacher who applied to Erie Catholic, and I am humbled by the number of great teachers who applied. We are now entering the hiring and placement portion of this process. I look forward to collaborating with our new Principals to assemble the best teacher teams possible at each campus.

Our building renovation plans have recently been approved, and building materials are already on order. Each of the six campuses will have an integrated 6-8 grade science lab furnished with seven sinks, fourteen mobile lab tables, new science lab equipment, and a SMART Board for the 2017-18 school year.

To increase our technological capabilities and presence within Erie Catholic, we will be implementing a Wide Area Network (WAN) over the summer to serve all six campuses. This WAN will give our schools 1GB of fluid internet access, exponentially increasing our connectivity capacity across our system, between our schools, and within our classrooms. We have also entered into a contract with Rediker Software, a national student information system (SIS) provider. This new SIS will provide us with a universal student/family database, school/teacher website options, and separate modules for grading, parent notifications, and finances. The Rediker SIS will enable us to have an online registration/application process, as well as, online payment opportunities for families.

For more details, continued updates, and our enrollment application documents for anyone wanting to enroll in Erie Catholic, please visit our current website (eriercd.org/choosecatholicsschools.htm). We currently have K-8 openings across all six campuses for new students and will process applications on a first-come, first-serve basis. As we welcome more students onto our campuses, we will be able to share the love and embrace of our Lord Jesus Christ as an Erie Catholic family. Inevitably, as we build this new school system, change and growth will be a part of the transition. I pray that the Holy Spirit continues to guide us through this progress and development, and that you continue to pray with me for the success and increased vitality of Erie Catholic.

Sincerely,



Damon Finazzo

President

Erie Catholic School System

