

ST. MARY'S COLGAN CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

ST. MARY'S ELEMENTARY
301 East Ninth Street, Pittsburg, Kansas 66762
ST. MARY'S JUNIOR HIGH and ST. MARY'S COLGAN HIGH
212 East Ninth Street, Pittsburg, Kansas 66762

www.smcschools.com



Rev. Mike Baldwin
Pastor

Rev. Chad Arnold
School Chaplain

John Kraus
President of
Schools/
Director of
Administration

Jason Marietta
School Advisory
Council President

Council Members:

Kathleen Flannery

Tim Flood

Mr. Duane Zerr

Mr. Stu Hite

Elizabeth Smith

Derrick Perry

Sara Imhof



January 3, 2012

Dear SMC Parents and Community,

There are so many successes and so much caring in our school and parish community. Our teachers put in very long days and nights planning and delivering top instruction. Parents bend over backward to volunteer in the classrooms, on field trips, in enrichment activities, and on committees. The students in our school have a passion for goodness which identifies them to all around as His children. And the history of our parish inspires with its beauty and depth of ministry. There are so many reasons why I am humbled to work at this great school. These are the beautiful reasons which have made my decision to leave Pittsburg difficult. This, my sixth year, will be my last as President of Schools/Director of Administration.

This summer my family and I will move to Colorado. The move will allow me to be much closer to my ageing parents (dad will turn 80 this year) and my siblings. It will also allow me greater opportunities to pursue my avocations of hiking, fly fishing, and mountain climbing. I will continue my career in Catholic education, being the President of a Catholic, college-prep high school and community.

I will miss working with our teachers, visiting classrooms, student council fun, our outstanding co-curricular programs and fantastic youth groups, the great adult faith education programs we have started over the past three years, and the fellowship and professionalism of all with whom I have worked closely, and most of all the joy, love, and idealism of our students. There are many snapshots I will keep—times of great celebration and times of grieving with families, opening the adoration chapel, expanding the campus, class reunions, graduations, our first GIFT event, and all-school Masses.

My hope is that I have done some good in my tenure at this parish and school, that I have helped touch some students' lives, and that I have drilled into their hearts that here at SMC they are on holy ground. Fr. Mike will establish a search committee and will advertise for candidates throughout the region. He will advise our community of the process as is necessary. Thank you for the support you have shown my family and me.

By God's Graces,

John C. Kraus
President of Schools/Director of Administration
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