



CAMPUS CONNECTIONS

FEBRUARY 2012

Administrative Notes

Dear Parents,

As the first semester draws to a close, it becomes a time of reflection. Pacelli Catholic Schools is a quality Catholic School System. We have very dedicated teachers and staff who give 100% every day. We are committed to Academic Excellence with a strong Catholic Identity. We proclaim the Gospel message not only in Prayer and Worship but in all parts of the curriculum. We are committed to Service in the Name of Jesus. We are committed to continuous improvement and constantly strive to actively engage our students in the educational process. We are committed to integrating the latest technology to assure that our students will have the the 21st Century Job Skills that they will need to be successful in college and the future. The faculty is working now on revisions for the curriculum to be implemented next year, and for years to come. We are looking to add more in-house AP level and advanced courses such as Calculus, which will earn college credit. We have made several changes in the first semester which will aid us in improving the school system. Second semester will reveal several more.

(continued on page 2)



Dear Parents,

During Catholic Schools Week, it is time for us all to reflect on the question of "Why Catholic Schools?" Why do we make the choice to go to Catholic schools or to send our children to Catholic schools? For me, this is an important question. If I did not believe in what we were doing at

Pacelli, I would not continue to do what I do. There is a reason for these Catholic schools. There is a reason that I am here. There is a reason your children are here. The top 3 reasons are in the theme for Catholic Schools Week: *Faith, Academics and Service*. If my children learn these three important concepts, I will be happy.

From my own experience in Catholic schools since grade 3 (when our neighbors, Mary and Arden King, talked my mom and dad into sending my brother and I to St. Augustine's School) all the way through graduate school, I have had the pleasure of attending Catholic schools. It was more expensive, but I will never forget the life lessons I learned. I had teachers who let me lead a talent show, I was taught to give to others before myself, and to put God first in my life. I had the opportunity to try anything from cheerleading to plays, and from school newspapers to music. I learned to speak at Mass and to think of others. I learned about God in the context of my studies which put academics in a whole new light.

I learned many things during all my years in Catholic schools. but *Faith, Academics and Service* are the three most important. They are gifts that I have taken into my adult life and used in service to God. I am so grateful that my parents made the decision to send me to Catholic schools. I waited until I was an adult to say thank you to them for the sacrifice they made for me. It may be the same for you. Your children might not say thank you until later in life, but the lessons they learn today in our schools will last them a lifetime. Someday, they will thank you.

Sincerely,

Mary P. Holtorf

Mary P. Holtorf

(continued from page 1)

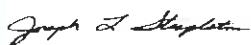
Needless to say, we have also raised some concerns. My first concern is the tuition collection system. I would strongly encourage all parents to use the EFT (Electronic Fund Transfer) system we have available. Currently, only about 20% of our families take advantage of this system, we would like to increase that to 50% for second semester. We are looking to ultimately increase participation in EFT to 90%. We can also roll set Lunch fees and set Kid's Time fees into that EFT so you don't have to write separate checks. It is a great asset to us to be able to make payroll and pay our monthly bills when we know the funds will be transferred on a set date. If you are unable to do EFT, I hope you will make paying your monthly tuition payment a priority. We would love to see you on the same date or day of the month. Making timely payments is an expression of your commitment to quality Catholic Education. Please contact Roberta Jones for more information at rjones@pacellschools.org

Secondly, I have some concerns about attendance, tardiness to class, and lateness to school. Punctuality is a matter of pride for us. In fact, potential employers will often call and inquire on just that matter, they want to know the student's attendance patterns, whether they were on time, and came to school everyday. To reinforce this, we are tightening attendance; too many unexcused absences, tardiness to school and/or failure to attend class will cause a loss of course credit, which may prevent a student from having sufficient credits to graduate.

Thirdly, we are introducing violation cards at the Middle/High School level. Students will be required to carry their cards at all times during the school day. Teachers will sign their card for various infractions. Three signatures is an automatic detention. Seven signatures in a quarter is an in-school suspension, and ten signatures a quarter will cause a day of Saturday School. Students who have no signatures in a month will receive a free Jean Pass, at the end of the year we will have a Reward Day for those who have had no signatures in the semester. There will also be a program where a student can earn back his/her Honor through good works, volunteerism, and for *Caught Being Christian*.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at jsteepleton@pacellschools.org or 437-3278.

Ad Astra Per Aspera,



Joseph L. Steepleton
President/Principal

Give me a "3":

Controlling the volume of our Voice

In the elementary school, we are working on voice control. We have charts displayed in every classroom and in the cafeteria helping our students understand that they have control over their voices. The following chart is what is being used for guidelines:

	Screaming and Shouting	
	Loud Voice	
	Speaking Voice	
	Whisper Voice	
	NO Talking	

At our January Fish! assembly, we practiced each one of these numbers. In the cafeteria, Mrs. Holtorf is working on students using a 3.

"When students are in the cafeteria, I would like them to talk as if they are in a restaurant. A number 3 is a speaking voice and is acceptable at a restaurant."

SCRIP LOCATIONS

MONDAY ~ St. Augustine's Church Office

(8:00am – 12:00pm and 1:00pm – 5:00pm)

TUESDAY ~ Mower Co. Catholic Parishes CU

(10:00am – 4:00pm)

WEDNESDAY ~ Pacelli MS/HS School Office

(8:00am – 4:00pm)

THURSDAY ~ Pacelli Elementary School Office

(8:00am – 4:00pm)

FRIDAY ~ St. Augustine's Church Office

(8:00am – 12:00pm and 1:00pm – 5:00pm)

"What was Jesus' life like when he was a little boy?"

Questions asked by Pacelli 1st graders



Did Jesus ever get bruises?

What was Jesus' favorite food?

Did Jesus climb trees?

Did Jesus ever get stuck in a tree?

Did Jesus have a pet?

Did Jesus get bullied?

Did Jesus ever have a sleepover?

What did Jesus wear for diapers?

What did Jesus do for his birthdays?

Did Jesus cook and help around the house?

Was Jesus funny?



Pacelli Catholic Schools Staff and Friends
being honored at our Catholic Schools Gala on February 4, 2012

5 years

Laura Sheedy, MS/HS Guidance Counselor, MS Math
Billie Jo Wicks, Preschool Lead Teacher, 4-5 grade Phy-Ed

20 Years

Candy Mullenbach, Head Kitchen Cook

Volunteer of the Year

Shirley Cahill

Boosters of the Year

Steve and Lisa Kocer

Life in College

By: Laura Sheedy

Over Winter Break from college, one 2010 Pacelli graduate and three 2011 Pacelli graduates came and spoke to our 2012 Pacelli senior class about their college experiences. Aaron Juenger (Riverland Community College), Colton Scherer (Hamline University), Audrey Ferris (St. Mary's University) and Stephanie Kocer (Drake University) all talked about how well Pacelli High School prepared them for the rigors of their college courses. They were all pleased to say that they have done very well with their college courses. They also spoke about all the opportunities there are to get involved in at college, just like there are at Pacelli High school, and to make sure you take advantage of these opportunities. I hope that in a few short months when the class of 2012 heads off to college, they will be just a little more prepared for college life!



Congratulations to our **Geography Bee** winners

1st Place

Evan Dunlop - 8th grade

2nd Place

Shane DeSilva - 6th grade

3rd Place

Samuel Keenan - 5th grade

Congratulations to our **Spelling Bee** winners!

1st Place

Shane DeSilva - 6th grade

2nd Place

Charlie Kanne - 5th grade

3rd Place

Emily Toland - 5th grade

1992 Boys' Basketball State Champions Celebration

Please join us on Friday, February 10 in the Pacelli Gym for our Pacelli Girls and Boys Varsity basketball games and a tribute to the 1992 Boys' Basketball State Champions (this was rescheduled from Friday, January 20). All Alumni, family and supporters are invited! Please help us spread the word about this event and remember the *MAGIC* of the 1992 season when the "small school" showed what it took to become champions. Help us bridge the team of today with the team of 20 years ago and show support for your school! This night is also our Spirit Night!

Reminder that students with a Student ID get into the game free!



Pacelli's Girls Quartet

Singing Valentines

Delivered – February 13th, 2012



For \$20.00

receive a special song, a flower and candy!

Delivered between 8 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.

Contact the Pacelli High School Office 437-3278



PACELLI MUSIC

February 2012

by K-12 music director Kelsey Korfhage

HAPPY VALENTINES
Call for Singing Valentines
Delivered Monday Feb. 13th

TELEPHONE
(507) 437-3278

ORDER BY
FEB 10TH

THE TWELVE DAYS OF CHRISTMAS

The Pacelli Elementary delighted their audience by telling the Christmas story as it relates to each character in the traditional song "The Twelve Days of Christmas". They donned feather masks, milk pails, drums, recorders, and acted out each character of the day going to greet baby Jesus in the manger near the pear tree. Each grade sang two songs on their own and ended by performing the title song heartily with actions! A surprise finale began after the applause of "God Bless All, good friends here, a Merry Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!" We ended the night with treats in the family room at St. Edward's Church.

MUSIC LISTENING CONTEST

Pacelli competed in the 25th annual Music Listening Contest at Winona State University on Jan. 20th. Sarah Kahle, Justin Servellon, and Jimci Zhang independently studied the guide and listening CD's to prepare for the event. They discovered new "old" composers and were enriched by the history connected with the music.

DORIAN AT LUTHER COLLEGE

Four 11-12th grade students from Pacelli were given the opportunity to attend Dorian, a vocal music festival of select singers from the midwest, on January 8-9 at Luther College in Decorah, IA. Max Brennan, Abigail Leif, Amy Johnson, and Thomas Mueller attended rehearsal for two days to prepare for the Finale Concert on Monday at 7 pm including nearly 1400 singers! Abby Leif was also selected to sing with a very select group of 100 in the Chamber Choir, which met a day earlier to prepare, a great honor for her!

CHRISTMAS AT PACELLI GR. 6-12



Pacelli's choirs all performed for Christmas at Pacelli in the PHS auditorium on Dec 17th. The PHS Choir processed in singing an old favorite "Let Us Sing with Glee". The Pacelli Singers, Lyrix, Quartets, Shamrock Singers, and selected duets entertained the audience with a variety of Christmas music, accented by short skits telling the importance of keeping Christ as the center of Christmas. Clover Choir caroled with bells after during dessert served by the Fine Arts Booster Club.



Why Pacelli?

Here are testimonials from parents, teachers and students about why they choose Pacelli for their child's education and why they work here.

Students get a lot of 1 to 1 attention. The teachers and Principal know a lot about their students.

-Pacelli Elementary Parent

Pacelli High School allows students to participate in extra-curricular activities. Promotes Religious aspect well. Having a priest there again is excellent.
Pacelli High School Parent

Teaching children the basic skills of living respectfully and loving one another.

-Pacelli Middle School Parent

There are many reasons I enjoy teaching at Pacelli Catholic Schools, but faith in action is my utmost.
-Pacelli Preschool Teacher

I enjoy teaching at Pacelli Catholic Schools because I can link my subjects to God. When the students and I look at something remarkable in Science, I can lead them to think about who created everything. We look at atoms, rocks and minerals, and human anatomy in a unique way when we consider the complexity of them. No man could have made such intricate details. How can the universe have been started by random molecules? God has certainly left us with fascinating material to study.

-Pacelli Middle School Teacher

I love the family feel here at Pacelli. Everyone has been so welcoming and helpful to me as a new member of this community; it is great! I also love the fact that our parents are so supportive of their children's education; the level of parents involvement here is awesome!

-Pacelli High School Teacher

Pacelli provides a safe, family-oriented environment for our kids. We are very happy with what and how they are learning about their faith. We like the Daily 5 and the special projects one has gotten to do with science.

-Pacelli Elementary Parent

My son has grown as a member of the church. I love that

-Pacelli Preschool Parent

There is definitely a sense of molding the students as whole individuals. We have loved the experience for our son so far.

-Pacelli Parent

I love teaching in the Pacelli community. The small class sizes and available technology offer a unique opportunity for us to really capitalize on student learning. Not only does Pacelli allow me to push my students further academically, it is also a great place to get to know the students on a personal level. Due to Pacelli's size and tradition, we are more like one big family rather than one big school.

-Pacelli High School Teacher

I feel very blessed to have the opportunity to teach at Pacelli Catholic School. Pacelli allows me to integrate the Catholic faith into all academic areas. Due to small class sizes, I am able to individualize learning, and get to know my students on a more personal level. Pacelli is the perfect place for students and staff to embrace their faith and educational values!

-Pacelli Elementary Teacher

PACELLI CATHOLIC SCHOOLS



JANUARY

NOMINEES:	NOMINATED BY...	NOMINEES:	NOMINATED BY...
Alex Loverink	Mrs. Frederick Mrs. Wicks	Audrey Schneideer	Mrs. Zielke
Marlyne Ossenh	Mrs. Frederick Mrs. Wicks	Braydon Constancio	Mrs. Schafer
Robby Wicks	Mrs. Wicks Mrs. Bickler	Kylee Christopherson	Mrs. Schafer
Morgan Klankowski	Mrs. Wicks Mrs. Bickler	Andrew Browning	Mrs. Jeannie Bambrick
Addison Murphy	Mrs. Wicks / Mrs. Bickler Mrs. Frederick	Alexis Soukup	Mrs. Jeannie Bambrick
Hunter VaDeer	Mrs. Wicks / Mrs. Bickler Mrs. Frederick	Slava Kritzer	Ms. Gees
Ella Schultz	Mrs. Kristen Bambrick	Rachel Nelsen	Ms. Gees
Daniella De la Cruz	Mrs. Kristen Bambrick	Jayson Herold	Mrs. Leif
Elena Salinas	Mrs. Taylor	Emily Toland	Mrs. Melissa Korfhage
Abigail Sederquest	Mrs. Taylor	Andrew Lammers	Mrs. Melissa Korfhage
Laroba Abdalla	Mrs. Valentine	Alena Kritzer	Father Parrott
Dane Mitchell	Mrs. Valentine	Drew Chapek	Ms. Sheedy
Moses Jacob	Mrs. Weinmann	David Diang	Ms. Sheedy
Carter Lewison	Mrs. Weinmann	Sean Shapiro	Ms. Sheedy
Kyle Mayer	Mrs. Zielke	Amy Johnson	Father Parrott

February 2012

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
			1 Book Fair 11:00-4:00pm All School Open House 6:00-7:30pm	2 School Wide Rosary 8:45am Reading Across the Street 10:45am Book Fair 11:00-4:00pm	3 Adoration in PHS Chapel Book Fair 11:00-4:00pm <u>All School Mass 8:50am</u>	4 Catholic Schools Winter Gala Austin Country Club
5 MAP Testing 6-12 grade	6 PTCA Meeting 6:30pm	7 2nd Qtr Honor Roll Brunch 8:00am Jennings Hall VIRTUS training 6:00-8:00pm Auditorium	8 Booster Club Meeting 7:00pm <u>MS/HS Mass 8:50am</u>	9 4-12 grade Choir trip to Lion King <u>Elementary Mass 8:50am</u>	10 Grades K-3 to Matchbox Theatre 20 Year Basketball Championship Reunion Night AND Spirit Night at PHS	11 Flurry
12 MAP Testing K-5 grade	13	14 9-12 grade NET Retreat 2nd grade sings at the Cedars School Council Meeting 7:00pm	15 EARLY RELEASE DAY Elementary: 12:20 MS/HS: 12:55 6-12 grade Conferences <u>MS/HS Mass 8:50am</u>	16 Preschool and Kindergarten Open House & Registration Flurry Pepfest 2:00pm in PHS Gym <u>Elementary Mass 8:50am</u>	17 K-5 grade FISH assembly	18 Flurry Coronation Dance 8:00-11:00pm in PHS Gym
19 LP Flurry Week	20	21	22 <u>All School Mass 8:50am</u> <u>Ash Wednesday</u>	23	24 K-12th grade \$1.00 Lean Day Stations of the Cross 1:45pm	25
26	27 NO SCHOOL K-5th grade Conferences	28 Author visits 2-5 grade	29 Music trip for 2-3 grade 4-5 grade Science Fair <u>MS/HS Mass 8:50am</u>	Reminder ... You can find all LP sport schedules on www.southeastconference.org Hope to see you at a game!		

FEBRUARY

PACELLI CATHOLIC SCHOOLS
 511 4th Avenue NW
 Austin, MN 55912
 (507)-433-8859

PB OPTION WITH SIDES: Includes Peanut Butter
 Sandwich plus veggie and fruit sides and milk.

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
		VIP LUNCH DAY 1 Corn Dog Scalloped Potatoes Mandarin Oranges Caramel Bars / Milk PB Option with Sides	VIP LUNCH DAY 2 Turkey Gravy with Mashed Potatoes Corn / Bread & Butter Mixed Fruit / Cookie / Milk PB Option with Sides	3 Chicken Fajita Rice Lettuce Salad / Croutons Peach PB Option with Sides
6 Chicken Nuggets Mashed Potatoes Beets / Bread & Butter Pear / Milk PB Option with Sides	7 Honor Roll Brunch Pulled Pork on a Bun Macaroni Salad Pineapple / Milk PB Option with Sides	8 Hot Dog on a Bun Baked Beans French Fries Mandarin Oranges / Milk PB Option with Sides	9 Chicken Patty on a Bun California Mix Cherry Crisp Milk PB Option with Sides	10 Spaghetti & Meat Sauce Garlic Toast Fresh Broccoli / Ranch Dip Fresh Fruit / Milk PB Option with Sides
13 Hard Shell Tacos Lettuce / Cheese Tri-Taters Peach / Milk PB Option with Sides	14 Hamburger/Cheese on a Bun Smile Fries Strawberries Milk PB Option with Sides	15 <u>Early Release Day</u> Italian Chicken Patty / Bun Sweet Potatoes Muffin Fresh Fruit / Milk PB Option with Sides	16 Ham & Cheese on a Bun Green Bean Casserole Pineapple Lemon Dessert / Milk PB Option with Sides	17 Pancake/Sausage on a Stick Cottage Cheese Sweet Potato Puffs Fruit n' Nut Mix / Milk PB Option with Sides
20 Grilled Cheese Sandwich Tomato Soup / Crackers Celery Applesauce / Milk PB Option with Sides	21 Sub Sandwich Lettuce Salad Sun Chips Pineapple Delight / Milk PB Option with Sides	22 Ash Wednesday Fish Sticks Bread & Butter Potato Patty Mandarin Oranges / Milk PB Option with Sides	23 Beefy Nachos Lettuce Salad Pear Milk PB Option with Sides	24 Cheese Pizza Green Beans Graham Crackers Peach / Milk PB Option with Sides
27 NO SCHOOL K-5 CONFERENCES	28 Taco in a Bag Lettuce / Cheese Tater Rounds Peach / Milk PB Option with Sides	29 Pork Gravy Mashed Potatoes Peas / Bread & Butter Pear / Milk PB Option with Sides		