



Our Mother of Consolation Parish School

17 E. Chestnut Hill Ave ♦ Philadelphia, PA 19118 ♦ 215-247-1060 ♦ school.omcparish.com

♦ *Catholic Values and Academic Excellence in a Parish School setting since 1862* ♦

December 2013

To Our Mother of Consolation Parish School Families and Friends,

In April of this year, we launched a capital campaign for our school: *Advancing in Faith & Learning*. Through this campaign, we pledged to use the funds raised to make investments in three significant areas:

- Upgrades to school facilities and student play areas
- Upgrades and advances in technology for our classrooms
- Improvements in financial assistance for school families

Through your generosity, we have received pledges totaling more than \$759,000. We have also begun making the investments outlined in the campaign:

- **Plans for student play/learning areas.** We are still in negotiations to license the field adjacent to the OMC Parish parking lot. We have had several parent committees already at work to determine the best use of the land as an outdoor play area and classroom space. Once we receive confirmation that we are able to use the space, we will be able to break ground and begin clearing the area.
- **Facility Improvements.** Throughout the summer of 2013, we have made significant renovations to the school. First, we renovated the principal's office for our new pre-kindergarten program for three-year olds, and refreshed the existing pre-K space for our four-year olds. We also created a larger space for our Catechesis of the Good Shepherd program, which also required renovations to the school library. For our next facility investment, we have gathered bids to replace all exterior doors to the school. This will ensure the continued safety of our students and staff, as well as improve the energy efficiency and overall aesthetic of the building.
- **Technology Investments.** We have purchased fifty iPads for use in the school, along with carts for use in the classrooms. Two of our teachers – Mrs. Anita Bihun and Ms. Caroline Stutz – will test and pilot the use of these tablets in our classes, and will train all teachers on their safe and effective use. We are committed to ensuring the safe use of technology in OMC Parish School. To that end, we are also creating an acceptable use statement that will guide the implementation of this and future technology investments.
- **Tuition Assistance.** To date, we have realized more than \$42,000 from the campaign toward the goal of increasing our financial assistance for any family to attend OMC Parish School. Families can begin applying for these funds with re-registration beginning in January 2014.

We are grateful to all of those who have pledged their support for this campaign and for OMC Parish School. We are humbled by the trust and faith you place in us. For those who have not had a chance to pledge or would like more information about the campaign, please contact Colleen Amuso, Director of Advancement, at camuso@omcparish.com or 215-247-1060.

We thank you for your continued support, and wish you and your families a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

In de Sales,

Fr. Bob Bazzoli, OSFS
Pastor

Mr. Bruce Hagy
Principal