Fr. Connors Endowment Trust Fund

The Newsletter for the Endowment Trust Fund

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From the Principal

Dear Supporters,

It is with great pleasure that I report that the enrollment at SHCS has increased over last year; including a healthy twenty-four students in the kindergarten class. On the other end of the spectrum, we expect to graduate twenty-two eighth graders. We have welcomed some new families with students in kindergarten, first grade, sixth grade, and seventh grade.

Last year we began some afterschool clubs that proved to be great additions. Some of the clubs are being offered again this year, while others are being replaced by new ones, such as the Gardening Club, Adventure to Fitness Club and Choir Club. We also have some new curriculum this year. We are implementing a new math program (Envision Math) in grades K - 5 and Education in Virtue throughout all grades. Both programs have been made available by generous donors. Next year we plan to implement Envision Math into grades 6 - 8, completing all grade levels.

As a Catholic school, Sacred Heart wishes to serve those who want a Catholic education. The hope is that we will be able to serve all who wish this for their children. It is through the assistance of the Fr. Connors Endowment Trust Fund, the Daughters of Charity, Vincentians, and other generous “angels” that we are able to assist 38% of our families with tuition assistance.

We send out a huge thanks with grateful hearts to all the ways we are supported by others in our community (and beyond).

Peace and blessings,
Heidi Kuliga

CELEBRATING 20 YEARS!

Father Jim O – Then & Now

This May, the Father Connors Endowment Trust Fund is marking its 20th year of service to the Sacred Heart Catholic School community. Officially established in 2000, the tax-exempt endowment fund was created to alleviate the rising costs of education and to provide financial support and stability to the school. Donations received become part of the invested principal balance, so donations that are made to the fund “keep on giving.” Income from the investments is disbursed to the school each year—generally being earmarked for a designated project.

Fr. Jim Osendorf, C.M., was inspired to create an endowment fund for SHCS after witnessing the success of a similar organization in 1997. Along with assistance from other community members, he and Marian deGroot, principal at the time, made the dream become a reality. It was decided that the endowment fund should be named after Fr. James Connors, the beloved long-time pastor that served the Patterson community for 20 years. It was also during Fr. Connors’ tenure that the original property for SHCS was purchased.

The current board of trustees includes current pastor, Fr. Rex Hays, school principal Heidi Kuliga, parish members Gene Bays, Sarah Brooks, Betty Day, Stephanie Keller, Mary Lisa Kuhn, and Ed Maring. A financial advisor also attends the fund’s board meetings.

Through the generosity and work of countless individuals, Fr. Jim’s legacy continues to enhance the education of the children at SHCS. In celebration, Fr. Jim will be returning from his current parish in Missouri to preside over a check presentation to the school at Children’s Mass on Sunday, January 26, 2020 at 11 am.

"Let the children come to me, and do not prevent them: for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." (Matt 19:14)

New Teacher

After seven years as the Director of Sacred Heart Preschool, Theresa Rothstein now helms the third grade at SHCS. With a master’s degree in child development and 20 years of experience, Mrs. Rothstein brings her love of learning and commitment to Catholic education to the third grade. Mrs. Rothstein and her husband are also active SHCS parents to three sons. Peggy Smith, longtime teacher at the preschool, is serving as the new director. We wish them a great year!

Scrip

For those looking for other ways to support SHCS, the Scrip program is another great option. Scrip gift cards can be purchased directly from the school’s office. These gift cards can be utilized with participating businesses. There are hundreds of vendor gift cards available—include most major retailers. A portion of the proceeds directly support SHCS. These Scrip gift cards are useful for regular household purchases, but make great holiday gifts, too. If you’d like more information, please contact Mary Ramerez at 209-892-3544.

Join Us For Breakfast!!

Our supporters and their families are invited to an appreciation breakfast from 8:30 am to 12:30 pm at Fr. Connors Hall on Sunday, January 26, 2020. Watch for the postcard that will arrive in January as a reminder and serves as your token for the complimentary breakfast.

Requests for Memorials, Tributes or Prayers for the Sick

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