

January 5, 2012

Dear Parents,

Welcome back and Happy New Year! The faculty and staff happily greeted students this week after the long holiday vacation. January 2<sup>nd</sup> began the third quarter of the 2011-2012 school year.

Please read the following:

1. Please read the following to be correctly informed about the recent tuition increase discussion for the 2012-2013 school year. Why the administration proposed an increase, and the final results of the proposal.

The average cost to educate one student K-8<sup>th</sup> at Cosgriff is approximately \$6000.00.

**2011-2012 Tuition**

Full Tuition - \$5500.00

Catholic Rate - \$4400.00

**Tuition Income Sources 2011-2012**

	<b><u># of Students</u></b>	<b><u>Total Tuition Amount</u></b>
Full Tuition	77	\$423,500.00
Catholic Rate	179	\$787,600.00
Partial Tuition (Scholarship)	47	\$83,800.00
<b><u>Total # of Students – 303</u></b>		<b><u>Total Tuition Income - \$1,294,900.00</u></b>

Based on the tuition income for the 2011-2012 school year, the average income per student received is \$4,274.00, far below the \$6000.00 needed. In order to maintain highly trained, certified instructors, qualified aides, research based programs, materials, etc., an additional \$250,000.00 must be raised each year to maintain the “bare bones” operating costs of the school.

An increase in tuition proposal was rejected by Bishop Wester. This proposal basically asked that all families pay the full tuition rate of \$5500.00, or apply for FACTS (tuition aid for families). The 2012-2013 tuition will continue as in past years (Full Tuition - \$5500.00, Catholic Rate - \$4400.00 both with a 2% yearly increase, and scholarship based on financial need).

Fundraising is tedious and time consuming for the Cosgriff community. We will need to continue on with a positive attitude and the firm belief that the educational opportunities at Cosgriff are worth the fundraising effort and that they provide a solid foundation for students to excel in high school and beyond.

**Click here** to read a handout presented at the recent School Board meeting. Hopefully, this will help you understand the depth of the educational instruction and programs offered at Cosgriff School, along with the rationale for the \$6000.00 cost per pupil.

It is important that you realize multiple facility improvements and additions have occurred within the past six years. Generous gifts and solicited donations are the source of the fifteen listed improvements/additions the school community has received. **Click here** to read this list.

- Attached is the fridge calendar for January and February. [Click here](#) to download a copy of the calendar so you can tape it to your “fridge”!
- Review the revised honor roll requirements and conduct code with your child. You will find a copy of the requirements on the Cosgriff website. Click on the Parent link and open the handbook attachment; the requirements are on page 16 and 17.
- The Christian Virtue students will discuss and practice in January is Goodness (one of the twelve fruits of the Holy Spirit). Goodness is the umbrella term for important values, including honesty, integrity, humility, confidence and excellence.
- The Social Skill for January which is important for students to learn and practice is Giving a Compliment. This skill is used when you want to say something nice about a person or what they are doing. Teach your child to look a person in the eye when giving a compliment. [Click here](#) for teaching instructions on how to give a compliment.
- Stewardship
- The Student Council has chosen to support two local charity organizations during January, The Ronald McDonald House and The YWCA. The following wish list is for both organizations:
  - \*new or slightly used children’s picture and reading books
  - \*”best seller” adult fiction/non fiction books
  - \*simple hygiene bags – small size, that include shampoo, conditioner, combs, deodorant, tooth paste, tooth brush, floss, mouth wash
- Parents are still needed to host the Open House on Sunday, January 8<sup>th</sup> from 12-2:00pm (it is not necessary to arrive until 12:30pm). Please email Mrs. Hunt if you are available to help at [bhunt@cosgriff.org](mailto:bhunt@cosgriff.org).
- The first semester Honor Assembly for students in grades 4<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> will take place Friday, January 6<sup>th</sup> at 8:15am in the gym. The honor roll recipients will have their name announced at the assembly and receive the actual certificate in their respective classrooms.

### **Parent Volunteer/Student Activity Opportunities**

- If you have signed your child up for the Brighton ski program starting January 27<sup>th</sup>, be sure to read the parent reminders and requirements on the school web page. Call Brian Kretschmar with questions 801-599-2913 or [bkimages@q.com](mailto:bkimages@q.com).
- TGIF, our annual enrichment activity, will take place January 20<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> from 11:00am-12:00pm. Volunteers are needed to supervise, direct students and assist presenters as needed. Email Jennifer Cook ([jencook@gmail.com](mailto:jencook@gmail.com)) right away if you are available to help one or both days. The time commitment is 10:40am-12:00pm.
- Joffe Coffee continues to be for sale in the office and before and after Saturday night/Sunday Masses. Also, Friday January 6<sup>th</sup> it will be available to purchase before and after school at the SCRIP table. Please use Cosgriff as your coffee purchase headquarters!
- Thanks to everyone who ordered SCRIP for the holidays - it was a very successful season! SCRIP via Venmo was so successful that it will continue to be an option for purchasing SCRIP - and the new minimum charge amount will be \$300. Watch for other updates concerning SCRIP purchases in the January "SCRIP Tips" email being sent this weekend. As always, if you have any questions regarding SCRIP, contact Kristin Cowan: [scrip@cosgriff.org](mailto:scrip@cosgriff.org) or 801-910-3905.
- Mardi Gras opportunity tickets will be sent home Friday, January 6<sup>th</sup> with your child.

- Tony and Rochelle Randazzo have organized and set up the black jack tables for many years at Mardi Gras. They will need volunteers to mentor as incoming chairs. Please contact Stephanie Christenson at 801-573-3677 or email [schristenson@firstam.com](mailto:schristenson@firstam.com) if you would like to assist this year and chair gaming next year.

Best wishes for the New Year!

Betsy Hunt  
Principal