

## Catholic Identity

- The principal selected **Sr. Jeanne Kenny as the Religious Coordinator/Teacher**. A meeting was conducted with Father Li to begin discussions regarding faith formation, youth development and service.

## Excellence

- **Teachers began the work needed for the upcoming School Improvement Process.** Teachers were shown examples of work and discussions were made about workloads for this process. The assistant principal and technology coordinator uploaded the SIP on Microsoft Office Live, networked through the server. This allows simultaneous work to be completed and uploaded with minimum cut/paste and review of work. The uploading of information and SIP work will be overseen by the Assistant Principal and Principal. Committees were formed, with clear due dates. Work on the academic pieces began and specific work must be completed before August 1.
- A review with the teachers regarding **on-going professional development** (or continued education courses) was discussed. Some teachers will have their salaries frozen if they do not complete the 250 CPDUs by next year and face rifting if a school needs to restructure/downsize. Several teachers at St. Therese are finalizing their work on completing their certification plans and must continue to do so, regardless of work experience within the school. OCS Personnel has begun giving a few teachers notifications that their timeline is expiring.
- **Additional training from Dr. Maureen Spelman and Dr. David Bell from St. Xavier University** was conducted with a data interpretation focus. The literacy team consist of our PK, JK, K , 1 and 2 teachers along with Ms. Ng and our auxiliary teacher, Teresa McCabe.
- **Since our music teacher**, Ms. Liu, left St. Therese, John Knecht from Sherwood Conservatory was interviewed and selected to be our new teacher. Mr. Knecht has a small music company, **Pulse Beat**. They will create a music curriculum that will introduce Christian songs, multicultural songs and instruments all incorporated with an Asian theme. We are examining ways to bring in percussion instruments, guitar, piano and vocal instruction.
- Met with Leah Duszynski, OCS's director of Inclusive Education, regarding the possibility of St. Therese being one of the **Centers for Inclusive Education within the Diocese**. Our resource teacher and the principal went to visit the largest center; St. Bede's the Venerable for discussions and ideas. We feel we can build three classes afterschool that can operate on 8-week blocks, focused on literacy and comprehension. October is our target time of beginning.
- Our resource teacher finished training on **Read Naturally**. We have secured the technology through the remaining funds of the Polk Brothers Leadership Grant Opportunity. Read Naturally will work well with our AIMSweb program, focusing on students who struggle in reading.

## Vitality

- \$25,000 of the funds raised for the building was deposited in an Archdiocese account. A minimum of 10% needs to be deposited before work over a certain amount of dollars is considered. The other nearly \$13,000 raised from the Keep the Rain Out efforts has been used for the railings, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor repairs, plumbing repairs, asbestos removal, etc. A loan for the remaining of the funds needed for the masonry work will be secured while focused fundraising continues.
- The principal attended *ComEd's Energy Efficiency for Nonprofits Workshop*. A needs assessment is needed to ascertain building usage and incentives to be gained in developing a more energy efficiency building. This will be explored further over the summer.
- **Upcoming Capital Projects – (cont.)** Railing work is continued and is being completed up through the third floor, starting with the stairways to the first floor (completed in April 2010). The work will be done in stages, until all sections of railings are brought to current code height and safety standards. Current railings make is easy to climb up; and also easy to slip through. Final architect approval with the city is being worked out with regard to emergency signage and exiting on the third floor. Fire doors may need to be added on the third floor. With that, additional bidding with our electrician and to become compliant with city code. We are selecting the material and contractor for this work and hope to have this completed before the end of the summer.
- A deep clean and renovation of the main office is underway. The new secretary has secured most of the material through donations from parent owned companies and the labor is supplied by the handyman. Stored paperwork, closets and shelving is being reviewed, cleaned or tossed. A new, traditional cabinet and counters are being built to give a presence of a more professional and traditional school office.
- An end of the year review shows that this is the first year in almost 8 years that St. Therese has paid off its loan, put \$25,000 in an Archdiocese building fund (masonry), met the obligations of every payroll, handled many building emergencies (plumbing, asbestos abatement, asbestos removal, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor hallway redesign, architect work, railings, etc.,) and was still able to come out financially solvent.
- **Keep the Rain Out total to date - \$37,989**
- *The School and Family Association Meetings are planning the fall Bazaar & the reunions for our 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and Chinatown's 100th.*