



July 9, 2014

Dear School & Parish Families:

Hopefully everyone is enjoying the beautiful weather and our students are relaxing from their months of hard work in the classroom. We are continuing our progress and preparing the school for what will be a new and exciting road ahead. Our classrooms are being updated and new equipment to our school is arriving every week. Our academic team is in place and is already preparing to open the classroom doors in a few short months! We are also very excited about all of the new additions to our staff. The additions to our already talented crew should further continue our goal of providing the best possible Catholic education at our school.

As you may have already heard, our current school principal, Mrs. Staszak has resigned and will not be returning in the fall. I want to thank her for what she has done to help our school grow and the passion that she has shown for our future since joining the SJV school family. Mrs. Staszak has accomplished many great things in a short period of time. In order to continue the foundation of work that needs to carry the school successfully into the future, Mrs. Staszak will continue to work with the school throughout the summer months to help transition to the upcoming school year.

We are currently in the process of finalizing our candidates for the next leader of our school moving forward. We also have a Task Committee in place to make sure all our bases are covered during these next few months.

As I have mentioned before, we will undergo physical changes at our school as well. Construction of new space will kick off at the end of this week. Our architect is Trautman Associates out of Buffalo, NY, who has done significant work with the Diocese for decades, and the construction firm is Savarino Companies LLC, also from Buffalo, NY.

The current plan includes the construction of two classrooms in the cafeteria area, an additional office and teacher's lounge, as well as four storage closets on the South end of the cafeteria. These new classrooms will serve as our music and art rooms. Our regular student classrooms are already accounted for and are being prepared for the fall including equipment, materials and supplies upgrades.

Our school building will also undergo many significant systems upgrades that might not be as apparent, but are quite important. We will provide adequate "fresh" air to the new spaces and existing cafeteria space to comply with current building codes. There will also be minor modifications in the Joan Wedgwood Center to accommodate AIS, Spanish and our Family Faith Formation (Religious Education-Formation) needs.

Beyond the construction changes, we will also be upgrading the phone systems and computer networks at the church, rectory and school. We are upgrading our sound system in the church, as well as continuing the next phase of our parking lot repairs and resurfacing. These last few upgrades and repairs were made possible by the generous contributions of our SVJ parishioners to our monthly Facility Enhancement mass collection.

As always I want to thank all of our school families and volunteers for the countless hours and dedication put forth to our school over the past few months. The hard work to grow our school and faith community is immeasurable. I can assure you that we are building our school for continued success for next year and beyond. I will update all of you on our progress over the next few weeks. Our wonderful students are the top priority and we want to make sure they are getting the best experience that we can possibly offer them.

Enjoy the sun, be safe and continue to keep us in your prayers as we continue the growth and transition of our school.

Sincerely in Christ,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Fr. Bob". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Father Bob