



January 25, 2012

Dear Ascension School Family,

This mailing contains registration materials for 2012-2013, our Centennial school year. Please read all the materials carefully and note the important deadlines. If you have any questions, call the school office immediately.

We will follow the same procedure as we have in the past. *All current school families may register currently enrolled students and any **new** children through school mail.* Only families that do not have children currently in the school will register their children in mid-February. If your children will be returning to Ascension next year, please complete and return the registration application and send the fee by the deadline. Tuition must be up to date in order for registration to proceed. **The registration deadline for current families is Wednesday, February 15, 2012.**

This month, the School Board proposed a budget for 2012-2013 which includes a base tuition increase of 3.25% (Non-Parishioners increase is 5%). Board members carefully reviewed several options trying to keep tuition at the lowest possible rate while providing funding for staff, programs and materials. The tuition increase is necessary for these reasons:

1. The Archdiocese of Chicago approved a 2.9% salary increase for teachers and announced a 6.4% increase in health insurance costs.
2. The school must provide materials to support the curriculum and keep the facilities in excellent condition. Costs for educational materials and maintenance continue to grow.

This increase means that most families will pay an additional \$13 per month per child for tuition. We know that any increase in cost is difficult for families, but we believe that Ascension School provides an excellent Catholic education for its students.

We understand that Catholic school tuition is a sacrifice for every family. Ascension School is a parish ministry, and we are committed to offering the best education possible, while managing costs through fiscal responsibility. Ascension Parish's financial commitment to the school helps make up the difference between what tuition and fundraising provide, and the actual cost of educating children. The budgeted subsidy from the Parish is \$450 per child. Further, the parish funds financial assistance so that families can continue to choose Catholic education for their children. Our many alumni generously support tuition assistance programs, too. Families anticipating help with tuition should contact the school now, so we can make adequate plans for tuition assistance.

In summary, the registration process consists of four steps:

1. Make certain that all tuition and fees are up-to-date.
2. Complete the registration application, listing all children (currently enrolled or not) who will be attending Ascension in the 2012-2013 school year. (Children new to Ascension need copies of baptismal and birth certificates.)
3. Pay the non-refundable \$100 family registration fee.
4. Return the packet to the office no later than February 15, 2012.

Thank you for choosing Ascension School for the Catholic education of your children.

Sincerely,

Mary Jo Burns, Principal  
Ascension School Board