

# PACELLI CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

## AN UPDATE FROM THE DESK OF **MR. GREGG HANSEL**

June 2, 2020

Dear Alumni, Friends, and Supporters,

We have officially completed another school year, though it wasn't exactly as I had envisioned my last quarter at Pacelli Catholic Schools. We never got the opportunity to come back from spring break, to teach in person, instead causing us to rapidly shift to distance learning. Our teachers did an outstanding job; students met multiple times each week with their teachers and meaningful learning and instruction continued. Thanks to the significant investments we've made in technology over the last several years because of strong community partners, we were able to seamlessly meet the needs of our students.

While we remain hopeful that we'll be able to have our students back in our classrooms this fall, our administrators are busy preparing plans for every possible solution. We will be ready to teach in whatever form that may take come August.

Financially speaking it's a bit early to tell

how we will finish the year. We made it a priority to continue to pay contracted staff 100% of their salary; hourly staff were paid at 100% for two weeks and then 67% through the end of the school year. We were able to re-open our Early Childhood Center (ECC) four weeks ago providing care for a limited amount of children and just started our Summer Blast childcare program for school age children, both of which will continue to provide steady revenue streams over the summer months.

There was also a significant loss in income during this time. Losses in our ECC revenue are approaching \$150,000. Parishes have also requested some additional relief on their school support payments, and we've reduced their payments by 50% for May and June. We did receive a Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loan which has helped us pay our bills and, while our gift card desk was closed for two months, it's now open on a limited basis.

Decisions will be made in the coming weeks and months about what this year's Panacea will look like. One thing is certain - it will be different than the event

we've come to know and love. We are taking precautions to ensure that the plans we move forward with prioritize our community's safety, but we are optimistic that we'll be able to hold some in person components of the event, like the live music and food stand. We did learn that our carnival vendor is not participating in any events this year, which will result in a net loss of at least \$25,000, not factoring in the impact the carnival has on bringing people to enjoy many other aspects of the event.

Despite the challenges the last several months have brought and those we know we've yet to face, there are some exciting updates to share. We've recently hired a nonprofit leader from Door County, Cindy Weber, to serve as the new president for Pacelli Catholic Schools. Cindy brings with her 30+ years of experience and a wealth of knowledge in strategic thinking, business development, nonprofit management, and marketing, having most recently served as the president and CEO for Sunshine House Inc. I am confident that the future of Pacelli Catholic Schools is bright under Cindy's leadership. We have also hired Dr. Greg Kaster to serve as the new elementary school principal for Pacelli Catholic Elementary School-St. Bronislava and Pacelli Catholic Elementary School-St. Stephen. Greg has a career spanning 33

years as a teacher and principal in both public and private schools, most recently serving as the K-8 teaching principal at St. Joseph Catholic School in Stratford. Greg's energy will bring excitement about learning to our elementary students at a time when they need it most.

Please continue to keep us in your prayers and continue to pray for the health, safety, and peace in our world. These are trying times, but I'm confident we will all pull through together.

Sincerely,



**GREGG HANSEL**

Director of Education

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