

February 22, 2008

TUITION AND FEES FOR THE 2008-2009 SCHOOL YEAR

Dear Parents:

I am proud to say that over the past many years the Catholic identity of our school, its academic programs, and its overall strength in discipline and spirit of community have grown and improved each year. I realize that it is a substantial financial sacrifice for you to send your children to Providence Catholic. This is why we work hard to provide a quality return for your enrollment decision. We are very aware of the financial strain Catholic education places on you and therefore, provide as much for your children as we can. We are overwhelmingly grateful to our parents' clubs, our benefactors through the Annual Appeal, and to many, many others who support and sacrifice themselves to provide the quality education we offer at Providence Catholic.

We have consistently raised tuition for each school year approximately 6% per year so that it would be predictable for you and allow at least some remote planning for your family and personal budgets. Next year tuition will be raised \$450.00 or 6% per student from \$7,485.00 to \$7,935.00. The discounts for multiple siblings continue to be 10% for the second child and 25% for the third student, as always. Most fees will receive a \$5.00 incremental raise for next year. Busing fees have been frozen for the past several years and will not be raised.

To assist families who struggle to meet tuition, the Finance Committee has once again increased the amount of financial aid available for the coming school year. The coming school year Providence Catholic will give back a total of \$750,000.00 to our families including \$308,000.00 in direct financial aid grants. If paying tuition is a struggle for your family it is worth your while to complete the financial aid form which is due on March 1st, 2008 and send it to the FACTS Company. Even if you do not receive significant aid through your application, it provides a record available to the school in case there is an emergency such as a loss of job or other event which will adversely affect your finances and make it difficult for you to pay tuition. If we have a record, we are more easily able to help you in a difficult financial circumstance than if we have no record at all.

The gap between the cost of your child's education to the school and the actual payment of tuition is large. We close that gap by fundraising through the Harvest Drive and income from the cafeteria, bookstore, the preschool and our parent organizations. The Annual Appeal helps reduce our debt and provides income to the operation of the school.

A \$210.00 activity fee and a \$70.00 technology fee are charged for each family. The activity fee covers accident insurance, student admission to all home games (except for state tournaments), drama and choral productions, the yearbook, the underclass retreat fee, and the school newspaper for each student. Campus parking fees will be \$100.00 for next year.

Classroom fees depend on the courses your child is taking in the academic program. Classroom and other fees are these:

AP US Gov. & Politics	\$ 90	Biology	\$ 65
AP Calculus AB	\$ 90	Chemistry	\$ 65
AP English 3 Lang & Comp	\$ 90	Human Physiology	\$ 65
AP English 4 Lit & Comp	\$ 90	Physics	\$ 65
AP European History	\$ 90	Art (All Courses)	\$ 65
AP Psychology	\$ 90	Choir	\$ 40
AP Spanish 5 Lang	\$ 90	Intro to Technology	\$ 65
AP Statistics	\$ 90	Intro to Graphic Design	\$ 65
AP US History	\$ 90	Computer Applications	\$ 65
		Web Page Design	\$ 65
AP Biology		Intermediate Graphic Design	\$ 65
(test and lab fees)	\$155	Band	\$115
AP Studio Art: Drawing		Colorguard	\$ 65
(test and material fees)	\$155	Winterguard	\$ 65
AP Studio Art: 2-D Design			
(test and material fees)	\$155		
AP Music Theory			
(test and lab fees)	\$155		

The Harvest Drive fundraising obligation is \$325 for the first student or a total of \$475.00 per family for two or more students at Providence Catholic at the same time. The Harvest Drive obligation has been frozen for the past several years. (The fundraising obligation is a way which allows you to write off a portion of your tuition costs by inviting others to support the great cause of Catholic education through the Harvest Drive.) Any amount of the fundraising obligation not completed during the Harvest Drive will be added to the tuition in the second semester.

SENIOR FEES - There is a \$145.00 fee for all seniors to cover the cost of graduation expenses. The Kairos retreat fee is \$165.00.

It is our hope that a stable and predictable gradual raise in tuition and fees will allow you to adjust to these demands on your financial resources. For your comparison I have included the following information about tuition and fees for Catholic high schools in our neighborhood.

Schools	Current Tuition	Next Year Tuition	Standard Fees
Brother Rice	\$7,450.00	\$7,900.00	\$200.00
Joliet Catholic	\$7,650.00	\$8,050.00/4 monthly installments	\$216.00
Marian Catholic	\$7,400.00	\$7,800.00	\$500.00
Marist	\$7,700.00	\$8,150.00 (est.)	\$150.00
Mother McAuley	\$7,500.00	\$7,900.00 (est.)	\$ 75.00
St. Rita	\$7,600.00	\$7,900.00	\$300.00
Providence Catholic	\$7,485.00	\$7,935.00	\$280.00

PROVIDENCE CATHOLIC SCHOOL BUSING

I have enclosed the busing brochure and the busing contract for the 2008-2009 school year.

All bus contracts must be received by the transportation company by June 15th, 2008 so that students may be routed carefully and safely. Contracts received after this date may not be routed and we may not be able to honor the contract to provide bus service to your student.

Please remember that the bus contract is for one full year and once turned in to us cannot be canceled. The bus contract deadline allows us to be better prepared to provide bus service at the beginning of the school year. Most bus pickups begin after 6:30 AM, but occasionally pickups may start before 6:30 AM if you live a long way from Providence Catholic.

Please read the enclosed brochure governing the bus program and bus routes. Providence Transportation has the final authority on the time and location of bus pick-ups and drop-offs.

Sincerely,

Fr. Richard J. McGrath, OSA
President

RJM:kb
Enclosures