



Pope John Paul II REGIONAL CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

BUILDING FOR TOMORROW

December 2006

A monthly progress report on the construction of our new Regional Catholic Elementary School

What's the Latest?

"The days are coming, says the Lord" we hear in today's first reading from the Book of the Prophet Jeremiah. As we begin the season of Advent, we wait in eager anticipation for Christmas, the celebration of our Lord's coming in our midst. He came to initiate a new era in humanity, to build the Church, the Body of Christ, in our midst! This is a special time of year for every Christian. But, for us, this year is even more special because we have built a new school and "the days are coming" when it will open! In fact, on January 9th, our students will begin the New Year in their new school!

Although there is little change on the outside of the school; there is great change on the inside! The school foyer, complete with a two-story vaulted ceiling, is now finished; it is handsome, indeed! White boards, display boards and tack strips are in place in all the classrooms and at the classroom entrances. In fact, several classrooms are completed and just need a good cleaning and polishing in anticipation of the new furniture, scheduled to arrive on the week of December 18th. The 20 gymnasium lights and eight speakers have been hung and the maple floor is being installed. Both the domestic and fire water meters have been installed and the boilers have been started. The air conditioner chiller has been filled with over 1,000 gallons of glycol and the air conditioning system is now ready to be tested. Quarry stone tile has been laid on the floor of the school's huge kitchen and the walk-in refrigerator and freezer will be delivered and installed shortly. Assembly of the elevator continues while the porcelain fixtures, chrome hardware and plastic stall dividers are being installed in all of the restrooms.

As is the case with almost every construction project, there is still much to be done. Many details still need the attention of the dozens of construction workers scurrying about throughout the building. But, Gary Schaeffer, the project manager from Branch Valley Associates, has provided the first punch list in preparation for handing the building over to us. This is a clear sign that the building is fast approaching completion. And, behind the baseball field, the wastewater treatment system structure is being constructed. The 7.3 miles of piping has already passed pressure-testing inspection and will soon be attached to the various treatment tanks now submerged and barely visible outside the plant. All the contractors assure us that the school will be ready to open on January 9th!



From left to right on a sunny November 25, 2006:

Michaela Dunleavy (1st grade),
Hope Sabin (3rd grade),
Bryce Hanaway (1st grade),
Alyson Hinfey (3rd grade),
Jake Hinfey (1st grade),
Joe Arvay (4th grade),
Ashlynn Arvay (2nd grade),
Michael DeLiberato (4th grade),
Tessa Hanaway (2nd grade)

Financially Speaking

After four years, the Capital Campaign is finally coming to an end at the end of this month. As we come to the end of our Capital Campaign, the pastors of all the parishes involved in this school project would like to express their gratitude for the generous support that so many parishioners demonstrated through their ongoing contributions to the Capital Campaign Fund. Your generosity continued even as we extended the three-year campaign for another year! So far this year, an additional \$475,000.00 has been collected, bringing the total income from the Capital Campaign to \$3,331,000.00! And, this is above and beyond the \$745,000.00 contributed over the years through the Development Fund. This brings the total collected for the new school to \$4,076,000.00! This is a tremendous outpouring of support for a school that was, for such a long time, just a dream, but is now just a few weeks away from opening! Thank you so much!

As construction approaches completion, it appears that the total cost for the school construction will be \$12.4 million. We will need to borrow \$8.4 million and the Archdiocese has allowed us to pay that off over 30 years. Once the Capital Campaign is over, the pastors ask everyone to continue their financial support of the school by redirecting a substantial amount of the contributions they had directed to the Capital Campaign back to their parishes. The parish subsidy - that is, the funds all of the parishes provide to make up for the shortfall between tuition and the actual cost of operating the school - increased from \$300,000.00 to \$500,000.00 this year and is expected to increase in future years. The pastors rely on parishioners to give the additional funds needed to pay this parish subsidy.

\$385,000.00 of the Capital Campaign pledges is still outstanding. It is not too late to fulfill your pledge. Simply forward it to your parish and it will be deposited in the Capital Campaign Fund to pay the ongoing bills as the building construction comes to completion.

The merlot-red Ford Fusion, generously donated in memory of Angelo and Angela Gazzillo, continues to make the rounds and is being parked outside a different church each Sunday. The Knights of Columbus are coordinating the sale of raffle tickets (\$25.00 each, 5 for \$100.00); they are being sold at each parish and through CACES as well. These tickets will make great Christmas gifts, and we need everyone's extra support as the construction phase reaches completion. Let us continue to generously build God's kingdom right here among us!

The Big Move

On January 2 and 3, 2007 the contents from our current three buildings in Coatesville will be moved to our new school in West Brandywine Township. Can you lend us a hand? Even though we will be utilizing the services of a moving company, we'll still need a small army of volunteers to help load and unload the trucks. If you can make yourself available on one or both of these days, please call Thom Lee at 610-384-8269. You may also send an email message to: tlee@leesafety.com. More information and details will be made available as we approach the historic day. Thanks so much to those who have already responded.

New Address

Pope John Paul II Regional Catholic Elementary School, 2875 Manor Road, West Brandywine, PA 19320

If you would like to have your child or children featured in Building For Tomorrow, you have one more chance. The picture for the final January edition will be taken on Saturday, December 30; 10:00 AM at the new school. Any past, present or future CACES/PJPII student is welcomed, even if they appeared in a previous issue. For more information please email Thom Lee at tlee@leesafety.com or call him at 610-384-8269.

For additional information please contact your pastor or the school principal, Sister Helen Loretta, I.H.M. at Coatesville Area Catholic Elementary School, 605 East Lincoln Highway, Coatesville, PA 19320 Phone: 610-384-5961

If you would like to make a difference in a child's life, please send a donation.

Checks should be payable to *CACES School Fund* and sent to your pastor.

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