



MARQUETTE CATHOLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM
Park & Franklin Streets, Bellevue, IA 52031
Phone: (563)872-3284 or (563)872-3356
www.marquettecatholic.com

**Catholic
Education:**
Character
Compassion
Values

Leadership Team

Jim Squiers: PK-12 *Principal*

Randy Rubel: *Counselor / Business Manager/ Curriculum Director*

Jennifer Litterer: *Elementary Teacher / Elementary Lead Teacher*

Karen Timmerman: *High School Teacher / High School Lead Teacher*

Rev. Phil Kruse: *Pastoral Coordinator*

May 2012 Newsletter

Notes from the Principal's Desk

Kindergarten Forms

Parents who will have a student in kindergarten this fall (2012-2013) are asked to return the "Student Registration" papers as soon as possible to Ruth Marshall if you have not already done so. The papers are needed in the St. Joseph's Elementary school office to update the student's file and also to help plan for the 2012-2013 school year. If you know anyone in our Bellevue community or surrounding area towns who is interested in receiving kindergarten information, or who may be new to our community and is interested in "checking us out," please have them give Marcine Tracy – Development Officer – or Jim Squiers – Principal – a call at 563-872-3284.

Exchange Student(s) – Host Families Needed

We have several exchange students who would like to come to Marquette Catholic for the 2012-13 school year. We are in need of host families who are willing to provide a place for the students to live while they attend Marquette Catholic. If you would be interested in hosting an exchange student, please contact Marcine Tracy or Jim Squiers at the school 563-872-3284.

2nd Semester Exams

Final exams for high school students will be given the week of May 14th through the 18th. Semester make-up tests can be taken on Monday, May 21st. The last day for students will be Friday, May 18th which is also an early dismissal at 1:10 p.m. Teacher workdays will be on Monday, May 21st and Tuesday, May 22nd.

Senior Scholarships and Awards

Seniors who have earned academic awards and scholarships are reminded to turn this information to the Guidance Office (Mr. Randy Rubel). All students earning awards deserve the proper recognition at the Academic Awards ceremony on Wednesday, May 2nd at 7:00PM in the MEC. No student will be recognized without bringing in the written documentation needed to confirm the award.

MCHS Academic Awards Night

Marquette Catholic High School's Academic and Fine Arts Awards Program will be held in the MEC on Wednesday, May 2nd at 7:00PM. While the program especially honors the senior class (who will be present in cap and gown), students from the other three grade levels will also be recognized for their academic and fine arts achievements this past school year. The Academic and Fine Arts Awards Program is a "formal" event and students are expected to dress up! Please plan to attend the program and also encourage your child(ren) to be present.

Senior Class Trip

The Marquette Catholic senior class will leave for Washington, D. C., Philadelphia, and New York on Friday, May 4th and will return to Bellevue on Friday, May 11th. Dan and Sue Jacobs will be parent chaperones on the trip. Seniors who choose not to go on the class trip are expected to be in school. This is a Board of Education policy set several years ago when the Senior Class Trip replaced the Junior / Senior Prom. We ask parent cooperation with the Board of Education policy!

MCHS Graduation

The Marquette Catholic High School graduation liturgy will take place on Sunday, May 13th at 2:00PM in St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Bellevue. As in previous years, the commencement exercises will be in the context of the Mass. There will be reserved seating in the church for parents/guardians of the graduates. Rev. Msgr. Cletus J. Hawes, former pastor of St. Joseph's Parish, Bellevue will give the commencement address.

Preschool Graduation

Preschool graduation for 4-year-old students will be on Thursday, May 17th at 6:30PM in St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Bellevue. Preschool classes will officially end for the summer on Friday, May 18th.

8th Grade Graduation

The 8th grade graduation liturgy will be on Wednesday, May 16 at 6:30PM in St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Bellevue. Mrs. Jennifer Litterer, elementary/middle school lead teacher, has asked that all 8th grade students line up in Kieffer Hall by 6:15PM to get ready for entrance into church. The 8th grade graduation ceremony is a "dress up" occasion for our graduates. Graduates should be dressed appropriately for an 8th grade graduation in a church setting. All parents, relatives and friends are invited to attend.

Hot Lunch Accounts

As we wind down the 2011-12 school year, we ask all parents / guardians to please keep all hot lunch accounts up to date. Indra Jara our Hot Lunch Director would like to close the books at the end of the school year and can only do so if all accounts have been taken care of for the year. Thank you!

Marquette Catholic School Registration

Registration for the 2012-2013 school year will take place in Tuesday, July 24th in the Marquette Catholic Media Center. Registration for PK-12 students will take place from 10:00-12 noon and again from 2:30PM to 6:30PM. If you are unable to attend on the 24th, please call school before the 24th of July to register your child(ren).

Senior "Skip" Day

"Senior Skip Day" is considered an unexcused absence at Marquette Catholic High School in the eyes of the Board of Education, administration and faculty. We are asking all senior parents to cooperate and to help us eliminate the so-called "Senior Skip Day." "Senior Skip Day" has been notorious for accidents and tragedies! With parental help and cooperation we can discourage all senior students from taking an unexcused day off from school. Senior students need to be in school to complete projects, take notes, take quizzes/tests and be involved in the learning process. The last days of school are just as important as the first days of a school year.

Dress Code

Now that the weather is warming up and students will again be able to wear walking shorts, the administration, faculty and staff would like all parents to help us out by insisting that your child(ren) abide by the school's dress code. All of us realize that children do grow over the winter months, however, shorts still need to be close to "knee-length." Failure to abide by the school's dress code will result in a demerit. Please review the Student/Parent Handbook and insist that rules established by the Board of Education, administration and faculty are followed.

Board of Education Elections

Elections for positions on the Marquette Catholic Board of Education will take place in the respective parishes on the weekend of May 12th and 13th. If anyone in our partner parishes is interested in running for the Marquette Board of Education, please contact Pastoral Coordinator Father Kruse, Board of Education President Randy Bender or Principal Jim Squiers.

Marquette Catholic Summer "Hoops" Camp

Marquette Catholic will once again host a summer basketball fundamental's camp for boys and girls who will be entering the 3rd through 8th grades in the fall (present 2nd through 7th grades). The camp will run from 8AM to 10AM for boys and girls in grades 3, 4 & 5 and from 10AM to noon for boys and girls in grades 6, 7 & 8. Parents' Day is scheduled for Thursday, June 7th from 10AM to 11:30AM for all campers. The dates for the camp are Monday, June 4th through Thursday, June 7th. Camp forms are online at www.marquettecatholic.com and have been sent home with students. Application forms can also be obtained by calling Coach Squiers at school 872-3284 or at home 872-4705. The camp is open to any boy or girl wanting to improve their

basketball fundamental skills. Camp applications are due no later than Friday, May 18th (the last school day).

Marquette Boosters Say “Thank You”

Thank you to all who supported the Marquette Booster Club
During the 2011/12 school year, through your support and generosity, the Booster Club was able to support the arts and athletics at Marquette Catholic.

Notes from Mr. Rubel’s Office

Seniors

You should have received your financial aid packages by now. Remember to compare them carefully. Scholarships and grants are much better than loans. No-interest or low interest loans are better than loans with no reduction in interest rates.

Make sure and sign and return the award letter of the college you plan on attending. Failure to return the award letter could result in loss of financial aid.

Students who have applied for colleges and have been accepted must request that a final transcript be sent. A signed release must be filled out before this is done. Transcripts will be sent as soon as final grades are processed. No transcripts will be sent without a signature.

Juniors

If you are considering a career in the medical field, you should check this spring with any post-secondary institutions that you might be considering. Many schools have waiting lists in health related fields. If your school and/or field of interest have a waiting list, check to see if you can get on the list already this spring.

Begin investigating scholarship opportunities. Summer is a great time to use web sites to look for scholarships. Remember, any site or organization that charges a fee for a scholarship should be avoided until you have carefully checked it out with the Counseling Office or the colleges you might be considering.

Juniors and Sophomores

The final ACT test is June 9th. You should definitely take the ACT by the end of your junior year. Registration deadline is May 4. Registration should be done on-line. The ACT has added a writing section. However, your prospective colleges may not require this portion of the test. Check with those colleges to find out if the ACT Writing Test is required.

News from around the School

Math Competitions!

The annual AEA Math Bee was held March 6, in Bettendorf. The team members were: Nate Brinker, Ashley Sieverding, Megan Litterer, and Paige Lampe. Alternates were Alec Schwager and McKenna Hingtgen. The top two individual scores for the team were Nate Brinker (34) and Megan Litterer(24).

On Feb. 25 the MathCount Team (Christian Michels, Louren Kilburg, Morgan Muenster, Arely Jara, Ellie Sieverding and Erica Timmerman) traveled to Bettendorf to compete in the regional competition. None of the team members qualified for the state competition.

Ten math students competed in the 41st annual Wahlert Math competition on March 31. Team members were: (Arely Jara, Christian Michels, Louren Kilburg, Erica Timmerman, Morgan Muenster, Brittany Moore, Zach Beckley, Ellie Sieverding, Kristina Koos, and Alyssa Kremer). The team of Arely Jara, Christian Michels, Morgan Muenster, Erica Timmerman, and Ellie Sieverding placed first in their division. In the individual competition Arely was first, Christian second. Morgan tied for third, and Ellie Sieverding received Honorable Mention.

Lenten Service

As a Lenten project, Mrs. Reeg's 7th and 8th religion classes held two bake sales. The students raised \$185 and donated it to Serve Haiti's nutrition program.

Science Fair

The Marquette Junior High Science Fair was held on Thursday March 1st. The students worked extremely hard on their projects, and it showed in the final result. The 6th graders completed Invention Convention projects, the 7th grade did scientific method experiments, and the 8th graders did Rube Goldberg projects. Congratulations to all our students on their hard work. Congratulations especially to our special award winners.

In 6th grade, the first place project was "The Hoof Healer" by Ben Kettmann, 2nd place was Eli Berthel, 3rd place was Amanda Koos, and Honorable Mention projects were Allison Hager and Alec Schwager.

In 7th Grade, the 1st place project was "Can You Read Faster with Bigger or Smaller Font?" by Alyssa Kremer, 2nd place was Taylor Banowetz, 3rd place was Marissa Schroeder, and Honorable Mention was Jonathan Herrig.

In 8th grade, the 1st place project was "Feedin' the Snugglin' Ducklin's" by Erica Timmerman, Kristina Koos, and Brittany Moore. 2nd place was Tanner Sieverding and Alex Konrardy, 3rd place was Anna Ambrosy, Zach Kettmann, Christian Michels, and Tayler Richman, and Honorable Mention was Louren Kilburg, Morgan Muenster, Amber Krieg, and Arely Jara. Congratulations again to all our students and thank you for the time you put into these projects.

News from the PTO

St. Joseph's PTO would like to thank all of you for your participation and support in our numerous activities this school year.

Because of your generosity and commitment, we raised a great amount of money to support the development of our children. The Book Fair generated over \$900, the Catholic Schools' Week breakfast brought in about \$1700, and we raised almost \$2000 through our Little Caesar's Pizza fundraiser. The Bender's Food Stand, a typically successful fundraiser, is taking place May 4th and 5th. We appreciate your help with these projects.

In accordance to our mission of supporting the educational, cultural, spiritual and social development of our children, the PTO utilized these funds in many ways. Two iPads and two Toshiba Thrives were purchased for student use, money was given to the elementary teachers to purchase classroom materials, supplies for the CSW mini-courses were purchased and new basketball uniforms were provided to the middle school boys' team. We funded the Text-2-Read program for the middle school and the entry fee for the Scripps National Spelling Bee.

We are members of the Dubuque Arts and Bellevue Arts Councils who provided musical and artistic experiences for the children. We organized the Variety Show and funded the chalice project for the 2nd graders as they prepared for their 1st Holy Communion. The Middle School Halloween Dance, Mardi Gras, the Father/Daughter Dance, the Mother/Son Night, and Literacy Night provided opportunities for socialization and community-building.

All of these events would not occur without the time and commitment of the PTO members. We are in need of new members to lead projects and to provide fresh ideas. The committee meets the 1st Monday of every month and encourages YOU to become more fully involved in St. Joseph's PTO.

Reminders:

All Marquette Catholic parents and/or teachers who would like to share their vision/ideas for our school are strongly encouraged to attend the school year's last **visionary board** meeting. The **visionary board** will meet in the St. Joseph's Reading Room from 6:30-7 p.m. on Monday, May 7. Ideas may also be e-mailed to visionaryboard@bmarquette.org.

This will be the last newsletter until August. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support of Marquette Catholic. We have had a very productive 2011-2012 school year thanks to the cooperation and support of all of you.

I would also like to wish good luck to Mrs. Jean Reeg who is retiring at the end of the current school year. Mrs. Reeg has done an outstanding job in our middle school teaching math, RIT, religion and guidance. Mrs. Reeg will continue to coach junior high volleyball. Thank you and God Bless, Mrs. Reeg! We are going to miss you!

Also, I would like to thank Mrs. Andrea Kirby and wish her good luck in the future. Mrs. Kirby taught junior and senior theology during the second semester and will not return to Marquette Catholic next year.

The June and July calendars are also included in this newsletter.

Congratulations and Good Luck to the Marquette Catholic Class of 2012!

Have a Safe and an Enjoyable Summer!

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me. I will be in my office Monday through Thursday in the summer. I will be on a family vacation from July 19th through July 23rd.

Jim Squiers