

January 27, 2017



Dear Parents,

This is a very special time at St. Brendan Catholic School. In the coming weeks a variety of 50th anniversary festivities will take place. In addition, we have completed a three-year strategic plan setting the stage for our future growth. This is a time of great anticipation for our families and the entire community. While we have created a specific plan for advancement of our school, from enhancing our Catholic Identity to creating a 21st Century learning environment, it is my top priority to be a good steward of our financial resources. It is my sincere desire to create a world class institution that produces students ready to succeed in the 21st century. To do this, we must constantly review our financial position and measure our progress toward specific goals.

The preliminary 2017-2018 school budget will include a **4.5%** tuition increase (rates for preschool and prekindergarten will remain the same). This determination was made after careful consideration by Fr. Jim, our school commission, and me. This new rate received approval during our school commission meeting on January 18, 2017.

2017-2018 tuition and fees are:

One child in-parish	\$ 5,929	Preschool (3 year old)	\$3,042
Two children in-parish	\$ 9,438	Pre-kindergarten (4 year old)	
Three children in-parish	\$12,962	Morning class	\$4,719
Four children in-parish	\$13,522	Morning & afternoon class	\$7,555
Out of parish per child	\$ 9,284	Registration fee-returning	\$ 200
Full day kindergarten fee	\$ 860	Registration fee-new family	\$ 400

It is important to share with you how this increase will be used to further the education of your children and help position St. Brendan Catholic School as a destination school in Bothell and the surrounding area.

Based on forecasts of next year's enrollment, the tuition increase will generate approximately \$55,000 in new revenue. The funds generated will tie directly to our strategic plan and be used in multi-faceted ways. First and foremost, we are tasked with ensuring competitive teacher compensation. This means a small increase in teacher salaries will be planned for next year. Another consideration is the creation of a capital repair budget. Therefore, a significant portion of the additional revenue will be dedicated to the facilities budget. This will ensure we are prepared when unexpected expenses arise. The remaining portion of the tuition increase will be distributed between technology advancement, professional development for our staff, and marketing. As we move forward, it is important to note that all decisions will tie back to our strategic plan.

A decision was made to keep the tuition increase for 2017-2018 as low as possible in favor of finding new and creative ways to boost funds needed for general operational purposes. One way to do this is through our upcoming auction. By using our "Fund-a-Need" strategically, not only will the school benefit, but our parents can use their donations for potential tax deductions. This year's "Fund-a-Need"

will address three areas of specific need: a new bell-system, 3-D printer and robotic kits, and curriculum. More details will follow as we get closer to the auction.

Thanks to our generous parents for their time and fundraising through the Annual School Appeal donations, Parent/Teacher Organization (PTO), Development office, and matching corporate funds, we can maintain a reasonable tuition rate in comparison to other eastside schools. The actual cost to educate an individual student is currently **\$6,774.00**. As we continue to move forward, it is important to remember that while trying to maintain an affordable tuition, some families may need additional support.

St. Brendan Catholic School is fortunate to have two sources of tuition assistance to enable qualifying families a Catholic education for their children. Tuition assistance funds are set aside to ensure that tuition is not a barrier to access for any Catholic student who wants to attend. Besides the Fulcrum Foundation, the Fr. Schmitt Fund provides a way to assist our families. Information and applications can be found on the school website under the FACTS icon. Select "grant & aid" if you wish to apply. Please complete the application and provide supporting documentation to FACTS by March 1, 2017. Contact Christen Lambert with any questions.

2017-2018 registration for returning and new families will begin on Wednesday, February 1, 2017. Links are available to complete the 2017-2018 Registration Contract to hold class space for your child, the PTO Fundraising Contract, and the PTO Volunteer Agreement. Registration will be completed for returning families with the payment of the registration fee, completion of the Annual School Appeal Form, completion of the Registration Contract, and PTO forms and enrollment in FACTS. You will be billed the registration fee through FACTS in March.

Please contact Christen Lambert or me with any questions. We are glad to assist you with the registration process.

Peace,
Mr. Bradish

Entrust your works to the Lord, and your plans will succeed ~ Proverbs 16:3