



February, 2009

Dear Parents and Guardians of Santa Maria del Popolo School,

The tuition rates for the 2009-2010 school year are on the back of this letter. Despite the general state of the economy, many of our costs continue to rise, including healthcare, utilities, general maintenance costs of our buildings, and our ability to make payments on our outstanding loans from the Archdiocese.

The School Board continues to work hard to increase school enrollment through marketing efforts and to improve our fundraising effectiveness. Both of these primary initiatives help to hold down overall costs of tuition. We are confident that we will again exceed our fundraising target to help defray operating expenses. None of this is possible without your commitment and dedication to these fundraisers, so thank you for your support.

There are a few ways to help those in need deal with the cost of tuition. 1.) Financial Aid is available to those who qualify and complete the proper paperwork, 2.) We will credit your tuition \$500 for every student of a new family you bring to Santa Maria del Popolo. (One referral fee paid per new family.)

We also would like to remind everyone of the parish's financial support of our school. The tuition, fees, and fundraising still only cover a *portion* of the cost to educate our children, with the parish making up the difference. (The cost to educate one child at Santa Maria is over \$5500.00). It is truly necessary, therefore, for school families who are registered as parishioners to both regularly attend mass and financially support the parish through their Sunday envelopes.

Here are some highlights of next year's tuition:

- Tuition is increasing by 6%. This is no more than \$210 increase per student
- Book fees and technology fees will each incur a \$10.00 increase. No other fees are changing.
- Every family is required to purchase, sell, or donate a FistFull of Dollars Raffle Ticket, per the tuition contract. This will again be rolled into your tuition payments, so no separate check is necessary.

Just a reminder that the second deadline for registration as well as tuition assistance is March 16th. School registration forms and fees are to be dropped off at the school office. Tuition assistance forms can be filed online or mailed directly to TADS. The packets for tuition assistance can be picked up in the school office. It is very important that you register by this date so we can plan on faculty and staff for next year.

In closing, we have compared our tuition with other local Catholic schools and it remains one of the lowest in Lake County. This investment in a Catholic education is bound to earn immeasurable dividends in the future. We thank you and rely on your continued support.

In Santa Maria,

John Lally
Principal

Pat Reardon
School Board President

Fr. David Arcilla
Parish Administrator

TUITION AND FEES COMPARISON

<u>2008-2009</u>	<u>1 Child</u>	<u>2009-10</u>
\$3,494	Tuition	\$3,704
\$3,994	non-parishioner	\$4,233
	<u>2 Children</u>	
\$5,691	Tuition	\$6,033
\$6,691	non-parishioner	\$7,093
	<u>3 Children</u>	
\$7,622	Tuition	\$8,079
\$9,122	non-parishioner	\$9,669
	<u>4 Children</u>	
\$8,864	Tuition	\$9,396
\$10,864	non-parishioner	\$11,516

Fees for 2008-

2009

\$175.00 book fee per student
 \$50.00 technology fee per student
 \$100.00 Fistfull of Dollars Raffle Ticket per family
 \$75.00 Lunch monitor fee (family if applicable)
 \$200.00 Voucher fee (family if applicable)

Fees for 2009-2010

\$185.00 book fee per student
 \$60.00 technology fee per student
 \$100.00 Fistfull of Dollars Raffle Ticket per family
 \$75.00 Lunch monitor fee (family if applicable)
 \$200.00 Voucher fee (family if applicable)

Applicable Fees will be added to base tuition rate and the total divided between the number of payments you chose.