

April 22, 2010

Brothers & Sisters in Catholic Education,

**OUR LADY OF THE LAKES  
CATHOLIC SCHOOL WILL NOT  
BE CLOSING ANYTIME SOON!**

I can not think of any other way to say it than to shout. I have been in contact with the 'major players' in this drama and I can unequivocally state, this school is not closing! UNLESS you give up on us! So, the theme of this letter to you is to encourage you to disregard any gossip, rumors, stories, lies, mistruths, or whatever's you hear. We are *not* closing. We are *not* quitting on you!

We have experienced an interesting Parish Assessment & Review. We have learned something's about ourselves, validated other things and put to rest other stuff. The good people of Our Lady's School have been heard, loudly and clearly.

So, I need every family in this area to get those registration forms completed and turned into the school office – *immediately*. The single thing that will encourage the naysayers is if any of *you* quit on us. I need to know what our census will be for 2010-2011. I have teachers to contract, educational materials to purchase and plans for a new school year to develop. I need to know how many of you are planning to stand tall with us!

Back to the more mundane matters of running a school. Next Wednesday the 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> graders will be participating in the county speech/forensics contest. I have heard most of them and those I have heard are good. I don't know what the competition will be like but our students will be competitive.

Next Tuesday will be our annual Grandparents day. We are looking forward to a very special day for a group of very special people.

Very soon the 4<sup>th</sup> grade families will be receiving information about a retreat to be held during September of their 5<sup>th</sup> grade year. This will be the first time we have participated in this event. This retreat will be held with all of the other Catholic 5<sup>th</sup> grades in the county.

Please remind your students to keep working hard on their school work. With nice weather, and outside distractions, the temptations of "... *the primrose path to dalliance* ..." will be strong.

May Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, our patroness, be with each of you as we work together to keep our school strong and vibrant.

Your servant in Catholic Education,

Rick Erickson, PhD