

April 21, 2015

An Open Letter To Parents of Elementary and Middle School Students

Eleven thousand hours. That is roughly the time that a child will spend in school from the first day of Kindergarten to 8th grade Graduation Day. Think about that transformation. Think about all of the changes, all of those moments of growth, all of the experiences a child will have in that time.

Now think about everything that will influence that child's transformation. What kind of environment do you want your child to be in for those 11,000 hours? What examples of character do you want your child to learn from? What people do you want surrounding your child as he/she grows up? Do you want your Catholic/Christian values and morals emphasized at school in the education of your child? Do you want your child to live Christian values every day? These are some of the questions that face us as parents when we are considering a school for our children. These are some of the questions that my husband and I were asking ourselves. Eleven years ago we chose St. Anthony School because we wanted our children to grow up in a positive, nurturing, Christian environment and we have never regretted our choice. This school provides a challenging academic curriculum in a supportive family environment. The students benefit from receiving individual attention in a small classroom setting from highly qualified, accessible and caring staff. The school graduates children who are more than well-prepared to continue their education in high school, whether public, parochial, or private. St. Anthony School generates exceptional Christian citizens and has a record of academic excellence that extends back more than 60 years. Our oldest child is now excelling in high school. Like so many other graduates, she is proof to us and others that the investment we made in her future by sending her to St. Anthony School was well worth it.

St. Anthony School provides 11,000 hours of good! Good is transformative. Father Timmings often spoke about the transformative good that occurs within the walls of St. Anthony School. He said that it was a life-long gift you as parents can give your children that they will never forget, and a sacrifice you make that you will never regret. He wished more families could be witness to this transformation in their own children, even if they could only attend for one year. This school was his passion for more than 20 years. He knew that this gift takes sacrifice, but tremendous good comes from sacrifice. If you doubt this, just look to the Cross!

I strongly urge you to consider sending your child to St. Anthony School. It is a Catholic school that teaches Christian values, but all faiths are welcome. We have many non-Catholic Christians as well as children of different faiths, and they have considered their time at St. Anthony School to be positive for their development. If you send your children to St. Anthony School, they will be surrounded by other children, parents, teachers, and staff who all see education and moral formation as a top priority. This school has been a transformative gift to my children and to my family as a whole. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions. This is my effort to reach out to parents and touch them the way my husband and I were touched eleven years ago.

Sincerely,



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