



ST. JOSEPH'S SCHOOL TODAY

Nurturing Excellence for 115 Years • Spring 2015

School Playground is Getting a Facelift!

Big news! This summer, the St. John's parking lot—aka St. Joe's middle school playground—will receive a much needed facelift!

With the approval of the Diocese, St. John's has signed a contract with Central Paving of Boise for new surfacing, fencing, sidewalks, landscaping, and playground equipment and markings for the 8th Street parking lot.

The total cost of the project is \$202,500. \$88,000 (43%) came from Fund-a-Need donations at the 2015 St. Joe's Crab Feed. The remaining \$114,500 (57%) came from the St. John's Cathedral Endowment Fund.

In addition, the Ada County Highway District will provide about \$28,500 of work as part of the North End Americans with Disabilities Act and Safe Sidewalk Program.

Updates will make the parking lot across from the church a better parking space for before and after school, as well as a better playground for our middle school students.

The project—designed by INSIGHT Architects PA—is slated to begin construction once school is out and occur during June and July this summer. The site is designed to



8th & Hays Streets parking lot / playground renovation perspective courtesy of Insight Architects.

be safer with limited gated entrances and secure fences. A variety of colored playground striping will define sports and recess activities.

Aesthetically, there will be landscaping—a mixture of trees, shrubs and lawn areas that will also provide some shade. Walkways and curbs will reflect the same character as the recent south lawn landscaping at the Cathedral along Hays Street. Two sets of

arched wrought iron entrance gates will define the entrances and identify both St. John's Cathedral and St. Joseph's School.

Work will be finished by the start of the 2015-2016 school year. Many thanks to the diligent work of St. John's Pastoral Council, Finance Council and Building Committee. And huge thanks to the generosity of our school's patrons and St. John's parishioners!

Community Service Demonstrates Faith in Action

Our students' individual and class community service activities are a true demonstration of St. Joseph's faith in action. Jesus asks us to care for our brothers and sisters with our time, talent and treasure. We are proud to report that our students continue to follow His teachings, thanks to the wonderful support of our community. Here are a few highlights of our many examples of stewardship:



Students and families picked up garbage at Boise Riversweep, helping preserve the Boise River for future generations.



Bella Boudreau (4th) grocery shopped and made a potato bar for residents of Ronald McDonald House. She also filled out the menu on the chalk board and decorated it.



Middle Schoolers worked at Create Common Good, a nonprofit work and job training organization for refugees. Students prepared the far for its Harvest Festival by clearing out beds and turning the compost pile.

*Community Service Highlights
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2014-15 Community Service Highlights



Middle School students collected money for OATHS which provides educational support for homeless students. In five years, OATHS has raised more than \$150,000 and helped thousands of local homeless kids!



The Davis children (K,4,5) collected blankets, coloring books and markers to donate to patients in the St. Luke's Children's Hospital.



St. Joe's Girl Scout Troop 505 collected 50¢ donations to create blankets for kittens at the Idaho Humane Society. They also helped at a Women and Children's Alliance breakfast, passing out gifts to attendees.



The Robinson children (K,5,7) collected books for the Treasure Cay Primary School in the Abaco Islands of the Bahamas. Most of its students are Haitian refugees, many of whom are early readers.

- As part of Catholic Schools Week, St. Joe's students raised over \$6,300 for Make-A-Wish. Thanks to a matching donation, two children were able to make their wishes come true—a trip to DisneyWorld!
- 8th grader Dan Marlow repaired and donated a car to an individual in need.

- Mrs. Weaver's 5th grade played bingo with the Idaho State Veteran's Home, and made "thanks for serving" cards to the residents.
- Mrs. Howard's kindergarten collected board books to be donated to patients at Dr. Alicia Lachiondo's pediatric clinic.

Student News and Achievements



113 middle school students accepted the ALS Ice Bucket Challenge last fall, collecting over \$700 in donations that were contributed to the John Paul II Medical Research Institute.



7th and 8th graders took 1st and 2nd place in the 2015 Idaho Science Olympiad, and qualified for the National Competition at the University of Nebraska in Lincoln.



Middle school math students celebrated Pi Day by holding a pie sale, raising \$1,100 for the Nick Yursa Memorial Scholarship Fund.



7th grader Annika Coffman placed 2nd in the Food Network's Kid's Baking Championship.



8th grade boys placed 1st, and 8th grade girls placed 3rd in the 52nd Annual Hallissey Basketball Tournament.



7th grader Leah Grace Curtis won the 2015 Modern Woodmen Fraternal Financial Speech Contest.