



St. Joseph's Today

Nurturing Excellence for More Than 110 Years!

VOLUME 2, ISSUE

SUMMER 2013

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Student News 2

Spring MAPS Scores 2

Staff Updates 3

Be a St. Joe's Donor! 3

Meet Your HSA 4

2012-13 Was a Great Year!

I would like to begin with a huge thank you to everyone that helped make 2012-13 a fantastic school year! Parents, teachers, students, and staff worked as a team for a great outcome.

This spring, St. Joe's became one of 47 schools across Idaho to become part of the nation's first statewide pilot of the Khan Academy—a free, internationally recognized online leader. The school

received a \$50,000 grant for training and technology from the J.A. and Kathryn Albertson Foundation.

Our MAP test scores show that there is a lot of learning going on here at school (page 2). I am very proud of our teachers and the students, with our overall percentages of students scoring proficient or advanced.

Of course one of our great

accomplishments this year was winning 1st, 2nd, and 4th places in the state Science Olympiad, and sending a team of 15 students to Dayton, Ohio to participate in the National Science Olympiad.

(Continued on page 2)



Principal Antonia Bicandi

Catholic School Forms Leaders

In today's rapidly changing world, it can be difficult to face the future with a fearless heart. But we must face the future, and the problems of our world, with the heart of Christ. That is what St. Joseph's School seeks to do by not only educating children and



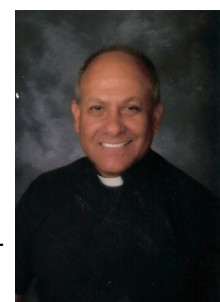
families about academic subjects, but also nurturing these students and families to imitate Christ.

The benefits of a Catholic education are evident in the actions and spirit of St. Joseph's fine young students. For example, the students took on a wonderful project this past school year, raising \$3,720 towards creation

of a new computer lab for a sister Catholic school in Cali, Colombia: San Marcos School. Altogether, our parish and school raised nearly \$10,000 to transform the lab from antiquated with only one working computer, to modern with many computers to help the students learn about the technology that is shaping our world. This kind of action on behalf of those less fortunate is what our faith calls us to do, as Pope Francis continues to remind us.

While students in other schools also engage in community service, a Catholic education helps students to understand that the reason we help others is not just to make ourselves feel good, but also to do what Jesus calls us to do. When I watch our students

mature as Christian disciples, I know that our Catholic community and our world will be in good hands for the future.



Fr. Henry Carmona, St. John's Cathedral

San Marcos School's computer lab before (left) and after (right), thanks in part to a student fundraiser last year.



Please continue to keep all of these young students in your prayers as they continue to mature, and encourage them to continue to grow in their faith and discipleship.

Yours in Christ,
Fr. Henry Carmona

Student Achievements

SPRING 2013 MAPS SCORES

Math: 97.5%
Proficient / Advanced

Language: 95%
Proficient / Advanced

Reading: 99%
Proficient/Advanced

STUDENT HIGHLIGHTS

- 41 of our 104 middle school students were inducted into the National Junior Honor Society.
- 15 8th graders were named Presidential Scholars with 3.5 or higher GPAs and advanced scores on at least two of their MAPS tests.
- Students raised \$4,313 in this spring's Fun Run to be used to add the St. Joe's logo to the main entrance sign.
- 20 middle school students received Presidential Fitness Awards
- Our 8th graders were invited to present ideas on games, exhibits, and areas of interest for kids and teens to the board of JUMP (Jack's Urban Meeting Place) a not-for-profit, interactive creative center and community gathering place in downtown Boise.



Our **Middle School Science Olympiad** Team placed 1st, 2nd, and 4th at the state competition, and a team of 15 competed in the National Science Olympiad in Dayton, Ohio!



Jackie Alves received the Sterling Humanitarian Award.



Matea Bidaburu won the Nick Ysursa Scholarship to Bishop Kelly High School.



Sena Stillman received the Annual Mayors Award to Youth.

Catie Augustine, Daniel Sabala

(center) and **Jacob Russell** (right) won the Outstanding Citizen Awards. These

three students exhibit the qualities of spirituality, academics, social



skills, citizenship, and physical activity that we



hold as our school-wide learning expectations. These students' names will be added to the perpetual plaque honoring the Sisters of the Holy Cross, who ran the school until the 1970's.

Principal's Message

(Continued from page 1)

Take a look at page 3 for more exciting news from our team's visit to nationals!

Our students have done a beautiful job in their community service also. Each child did individual, age-appropriate service projects, and there were some wonderful class projects: sending letters and care packages to troops in Afghanistan; collecting and organizing for St. John's Food Bank and Idaho Food Bank; bingo with veterans; and making and delivering blankets for pets at the Idaho Humane Society, to name a few. The students are always excited and do a fantastic job on these

projects, and we consistently get wonderful, touching letters of appreciation!

Our 8th grade class was surprised at graduation with a very sweet letter and donation in their name to the YMCA from David Tumajen. Since second grade, this class has written and sent care packages to David, a St. Joe's alum who is active military. He wrote to express how much he has appreciated them over the years, especially during deployments to the Middle East. His touching letter embodied the spirit of this truly special class, and reminded us all of how much they will be

missed!

Stories like David's exemplify the quality of education that St. Joseph's students receive. Please remember that St. Joe's is offering a \$200 incentive for current families who bring a new family into our community. If everyone would try to recruit one other family, that would be wonderful! It is because of your sharing your own experiences that families choose to bring their children to St. Joseph's. Thank you!

Sincerely,
Principal Antonia Bicandi

Staff Honors and Announcements



Mary McClure was one of two middle school teachers nationwide to receive the Coaching Excellence Award at the National Science Olympiad Competition in May. As a recipient, she received an all-expenses-paid trip to the Science Olympiad Summer Institute in Phoenix, Arizona this summer!



Ricardo Yanci (middle school), **Anita Baccay** (4th grade, far left), and retired teacher **Mary Ellen Violette** were recognized as "Significant Educators" by two Bishop Kelly students—and St. Joe's alumni—who were named 2013 Boise Rotary Scholars this past spring.

Welcome New Teachers and Staff!

Staffed with dedicated, experienced teachers, St. Joseph's students receive a strong foundation for future academic success. Integrated into the core curriculum are Catholic and Christian beliefs and values.

Chelsea Cammann will teach 2nd grade. Miss Cammann is a graduate of the College of Idaho. She most recently has worked as a nanny in New York.



Angie Howard will teach kindergarten. Mrs. Howard took time off from teaching at St. Joe's 15 years ago to raise her family and has been a frequent substitute teacher.



Kathleen Curtis is our new part-time counselor. Mrs. Curtis is a graduate of Notre Dame University and has great experience with school children, families and health services.



Molly Johans will teach 4th grade. A St. Joe's alum, Miss Johans graduated from the College of Idaho and did her student teaching with us last year.



Many thanks and a fond farewell to these departing staff. You will be missed!



Anita Baccay (4th grade) will be leaving St. Joe's after nine years.



Carol Davis (aide) relocated to the Denver area to be near her family.



Laura Hesla (kindergarten) will attend graduate school in Oregon.



Amy Mayton, kitchen assistant, and her family are moving to St. Paul's Parish in Nampa.



Betsy Miller (school counselor) has taken a position with Junior Achievement.



Jayne Rollison (3rd grade) has relocated to Texas to be near her family.

Support St. Joe's with Tax Benefit Donations!

The future of St. Joseph's has been entrusted to us and depends on each of us to contribute our God-given gifts of time, talent and treasure. In order to keep tuition as affordable as possible, we rely on donations to enable our school to continue to provide an exceptional Catholic education to the children of our community. Please remember St. Joe's in your donation plans for 2013. You may donate up to \$2,000 per couple any time during 2013 and receive at least 50% back in tax benefits. For those in the higher tax bracket, it costs the donor nothing! Go to www.stjoes.com for more information on various giving opportunities, or call 208.841.9591.





St. Joseph's Catholic School

825 W. Fort Street Boise, Idaho 83702

ph: 208.342.4909 fax: 208.342.0997

www.stjoes.com email: info@stjoes.com

NONPROFIT ORG.
US POSTAGE
PAID
BOISE ID
PERMIT NO. 239

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!
ITALIAN DINNER AND CARNIVAL...SEPTEMBER 15, 2013
CRAB FEED DINNER AUCTION...FEBRUARY 8, 2014



Be at St. Joe's Volunteer!

Hello St. Joe's Families! My name is Maria Borders and I am honored to be your St. Joe's Home and School Association President for the upcoming school year.

We have been a part of the St. Joe's family since 2009, with son Zach entering 6th grade and Jacob in 2nd grade. During this time we have witnessed our boys grow spiritually and academically, achieving many successes along the way.

The gift of a St. Joe's education is perpetual, providing its students with a strong foundation that stays with them. We have seen our sons go forth every year with more confidence and advanced knowledge of their studies—always prepared for the next grade. A St. Joe's education is more than K-8 grades. It also reaches beyond into high school.

We have witnessed this through our oldest son, Zach. Due to the outstanding education and the



Maria Borders,
2013-14 HSA
President

dedication of his St. Joe's teachers, Zach went on to high school in 2012 well prepared. He continues to excel and receive recognition for academic achievements at Bishop Kelly. St. Joe's is truly a gift that keeps on giving.

The St. Joe's community welcomes all. It is a friendly and joyful environment that we enjoy being a part of. St. Joe's gives so much to our students that I wanted to give back to show my appreciation.

For me, volunteering was the best way that I could achieve this. I started out helping with class parties or field trips. It was a great opportunity for me to get to know the teachers, students and other parents. Most importantly, I was told constantly by the teachers how much they appreciated my time.

In 2012, I was invited to be a part of the HSA. It is with enthusiasm that I accepted.

I am excited for another great year here at St.



From left: Secretary Rebecca Hupp ,
Volunteer Coordinator Jan Noriyuki, President-
Elect Stephanie Westermeier, President Maria
Borders, Treasurer Nicola McIntosh
(not pictured, Lisa Duplessie, Past President)

Joe's and look forward to the opportunity to assist you and your students. Please feel free to contact me with any questions you may have at hsastjoes2013@gmail.com or mariaborders@gmail.com. I am happy to help anyway I can!