



THE

The Newspaper of Local 1776
The Association of Catholic Teachers

SPIRIT

OF

'76

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From The President's Desk

NORTH AND DOUGHERTY TO CLOSE

The devastating news was released on October 8th - two Archdiocesan high schools of long standing would cease to exist at the end of the school year. Over sixty lay teachers and lay administrators were instantly constricted as were the religious and priests at the two schools.

The ACT Staff met with the faculty of Northeast Catholic on October 13 and with the teachers of Cardinal Dougherty on October 14. The closing policy was at the top of the agenda for both meetings. The policy has not been used since St. James was closed in the early 1990's, prior to the birth of open enrollment. There were many questions about how everything will work.

The overwhelming concern voiced by both faculties during our meetings was for their students. The teachers were intent upon getting answers about how their students would be welcomed by other schools. Would their scholarships follow them? How would the quality points, teams and clubs,

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FROM THE PRESIDENT. . .

student council elections, etc. work next year? How would the traditions from both North and Dougherty be preserved, most especially, for this year's juniors?

As with any system of schools, what affects one or two of our schools affects us all. It is vitally important for the continued health of the remaining schools that these students be encouraged to attend other Archdiocesan high schools. The System has lined the students up by zip code to see what schools are closest geographically and there will be open houses specifically scheduled by the possible "receiving" schools. However, there are no hard and fast rules here.

There are, however, contractually mandated rules for teachers at the schools, namely, the provisions of the Closing Policy, Article VII of the Labor-Management Agreement (Constriction) and the Constriction Guidelines.

Hopefully, a significant number of North and Dougherty students will choose a particular school and that will open additional teaching positions there for teachers from the closing schools. Teachers will be able to welcome their former students into their mutual new schools.

The Association and the System will be working throughout the school year to make sure that everything falls into place with the least amount of upsetment.



Seniority Lists Posted

Article V, Section 1a states "On or before October 31 of each school year, the Secondary School System shall supply to the Association and shall post in the individual schools a complete listing of all teachers in the Secondary School System including those on approved leaves of absence arranged according to system seniority and school seniority."

"Teachers shall have until December 15 to call attention in writing to errors or file grievances with the local school administration concerning their positions on the seniority roster."

Missing You

Bill Millar, a faculty member of the Science Department at Monsignor Bonner-Archbishop Prendergast High School, died suddenly at the beginning of July.

After previously working in the nursing profession for many years, Bill altered his profession and became a teacher, joining the faculty of Monsignor Bonner High School in 2002. In his short time with us, he made the Science Department that much better.

Bill enjoyed teaching, especially the AP Biology class, using his knowledge and experience from his nursing career.

Bill was admired by the students as well as the faculty and administration. The students had a very good rapport with him and they enjoyed his sense of humor.

During the first week of school, Bill gave his students a nickname that stuck with them for the entire time they attended Bonner.

You could tell Bill's mood by the music he played in his classroom, varying from instrumental to heavy rock.

Bill was able to mesmerize the students and the faculty members with his plethora of stories from his travels around the world. Bill also served his time in the armed services in Vietnam, making Veterans' Day very significant to him.

The students and faculty will miss his quick wit and endearing stories. Please keep Bill and his family in your prayers.

Joseph Dolan
Monsignor Bonner and
Archbishop Prendergast High School





More Notes Of Thanks !

From: John J. Reilly Scholarship Award Winners

"Each year, the Association's Executive Board awards a \$500 Scholarship to the 9th grader in each Diocesan high school and at Holy Cross who has the highest general average as of the end of the first semester. If that student is already on scholarship, it is given to the highest student not receiving financial assistance. The \$500 Scholarship is sent to each school to be applied to the student's 10th grade tuition."

Dear Ms. Schwartz,

On behalf of the entire Bonner Prendergast community, Matthew Onimus and his family, I would like to thank the Association of Catholic Teachers scholarship fund for the very generous tuition donation of \$500.00 for the 2009-10 school year.

Thank you again for partnering with us in our mission of Catholic education. The educational, spiritual and social environment for our students and their families is enhanced significantly as a result of this type of continued support.

May God reward you for your kindness.

Sincerely in Christ,
Reverend P. Olson
President

Dear Rita,

We received the tuition check for Elena Marrero. Thank you so much for this gift to a very deserving student. We are quite proud of her academic success and hope that it will continue, in part due to your generosity.

Respectfully yours,
Sister Mary E. Bur, IHM
Principal
West Philadelphia Catholic HS

Dear Rita,

Please accept our appreciation for ACT's scholarship of \$500.00 for the 2009-10 Annual Fund. Your gift was applied to Jordan Janinek's 10th grade tuition. As the Lansdale Catholic High School community implements our strategic plan for the future, your financial and spiritual support allows our school to continue with its mission of truly being *"A learning community, teaching values for life, through a formative Catholic education."*

In the words of our late Pope John Paul II, *"Few efforts are more important for the present and future well being of the Church and of the nation than efforts expended in the work of education."* May our Patroness, St. Therese of Lisieux, continue to intercede for us, as we do our very best to meet the needs of all our region's students.

Mr. James W. Casey
President

Mrs. Karen L. Maginnis '82
Director of Institutional Advancement
and Alumni Affairs

Be the Best!

Congratulations to Father Judge and West Catholic High Schools who were highlighted in the September, 2009 issue of *Philadelphia Magazine*.

Cheerleaders

Father Judge

> In a sport—yes, sport—dominated by Southerners, the members of Father Judge's all-female "super varsity" squad (made up, since Northeast Philly's Father Judge is all boys, mostly of students from St. Hubert's) don't just stand out for their accents. They stand out for their seamless choreography of back handsprings, back tucks and stunts. The 36-girl team has won Top 10 status since it began competing in nationals in 2005. (Last year, the Crusaders took second.) Their theme song: "Philadelphia Freedom." You go girls, indeed.

Mascot

West Philadelphia Catholic

> Home of Burr-Man, repping the school's mighty Burrs. How, you might ask, does irksome plant material become a mascot? According to legend, Philly's streets once teemed with kids in similar parochial-school uniforms; West Catholic kids were distinguished by the burrs from the trees alongside their school, which caught on their clothes. Hey, you go with what you've got. Now the alumni association can be found at AlwaysABurr.org, and the annual summer Shore reunion is Burrs at the Beach.

(The cheerleaders were on the front cover of the magazine.)

Congratulations

to **Holy Cross** and **Saint Pius X** High Schools for being chosen by *Philadelphia Magazine* (September issue) as two of the select private high schools in the city and suburbs.

797 Years of Service

Each October, the Archbishop Ryan school community celebrates its patrons, St. Francis of Assisi and the Blessed Mother. On October 2nd, the following Ryan teachers were honored for their 797 years of service to the students in the Archdiocesan high schools. Each teacher has been educating young men and women for at least 40 years.

Ed Ulmer

Jerry O'Connell

Ed Griffis

Barbara Cowley

John Kurek

Bob Lewis

Paul Pedlow

Gerry Donahue

Gene Davis

Chuck Fowler

Dave Clayton

George Deal

Lou Fante

Jim McCoy

Dan Vorgity

Bill Saybolt

George Todt

Gloria Furman

John Molnar

Congratulations and Thank You!

Teachers in the News

The following teachers' names and pictures appeared on the Archdiocese of Philadelphia's web site:

Technology Star

Gene Carboni
Father Judge High School



Teacher Spotlight

Jim Gildea
Neumann-Goretti



Frank Cahill
Father Judge



Mary Jo Tella
Kennedy-Kenrick



600 Career Wins!

George Todt, Archbishop Ryan, was highlighted in the September 17, 2009 edition of the *Northeast Times* for attaining his 600th career win as Ryan's soccer coach. He is also the all-time-winningest coach in Pennsylvania. Congratulations, George!

“He’s had an effect on everyone who has played for him. They have so much respect for him and they all like him. He’s a great husband, a great father, a great coach and a great man.”

—George Todt's wife of 13 years, Beverly



Back-to-School Barbecue

It was a dark and stormy night--Friday, September 11th, to be exact--when the faculties and staffs of Saint Pius X and Kennedy-Kenrick High Schools held their Back-to-School Barbecue on the grounds of Pope John Paul II High School in Royersford.

Many of you may remember that this was the last day of the opening week of school. It had rained off and on all day, then, as the day became night, rain pounded certain areas of the region, one of those areas being Royersford. To let you know what a difference a few miles can make, the *Phillies* had a home game scheduled that night. No one was sure that the game would be played, but it was and without any downpours.

Thankfully, everyone came prepared for the potential deluge, wearing rain gear, sweat shirts, and anything that would keep them warm and dry. We huddled underneath the tent while the food was barbecued under another canopy.

Both faculties and staffs had a great time, intermingling throughout the evening. As the rain started to come down even harder, making its way under the tent and soaking the sod on the new soccer field, everyone thanked Fr. Okon, president of the three schools, for a wonderful evening. They waded through the puddles as they exited the tent, making their way across the clay driveways to their cars for the ride home and to dry out.

It was an evening that no one there will soon forget!



*Irene Tori
ACT Staff*



ACT MEMBER SERVICE PROGRAM

Members of the Association of Catholic Teachers may purchase discounted tickets directly from the ACT Office for the following attractions:

Franklin Institute Tickets - \$13.00

AMC Movie Tickets ----- \$6.00
(can also be used at the Loews Theater in Cherry Hill NJ)

Regal/United Artists ---- \$6.50

National Constitution Center - \$7.50

Philadelphia Zoo ----- \$13.00

To purchase any of the tickets listed above, send a check payable to the Association of Catholic Teachers with a note indicating the ticket and the quantity being ordered.



Happy Halloween!
Rita, Irene, Ginny, and Caitlin

MEDICAL RATES FOR THE 2009-2010 PLAN YEAR (NOVEMBER 1, 2009-OCTOBER 31, 2010)

<u>ANNUAL PREMIUMS</u>	<u>PERSONAL CHOICE 25/35/70</u>	<u>KEYSTONE EAST HMO</u>
Employee	\$8301.96	\$ 6685.44
Employee & child	\$16765.80	\$13596.72
Employee&children	\$18710.76	\$15209.28
Employee & Spouse	\$19959.72	\$16220.52
Full Family	\$21875.64	\$17766.48

<u>MONTHLY PREMIUMS</u>	<u>PERSONAL CHOICE 25/35/70</u>	<u>KEYSTONE EAST HMO</u>
Employee	\$691.83	\$557.12
Employee & child	\$1397.15	\$1133.06
Employee&children	\$1559.23	\$1267.44
Employee & Spouse	\$1663.31	\$1351.71
Full Family	\$1822.97	\$1480.54

<u>MONTHLY TEACHER CONTRIBUTION</u>	<u>PERSONAL CHOICE 25/35/70</u>	<u>KEYSTONE EAST HMO</u>
Employee	\$ 83.53	\$ 61.28
Employee & child	\$168.87	\$124.64
Employee&children	\$188.46	\$139.42
Employee & Spouse	\$201.04	\$148.69
Full Family	\$220.33	\$162.86

PAYROLL DEDUCTIONS OVER 17 PAYS

(Beginning with the November 13, 2009 pay and ending with the pay of June 25, 2010)

	<u>PERSONAL CHOICE PPO</u>	<u>KEYSTONE EAST HMO</u>
Employee	\$58.96	\$43.26
Employee & child	\$119.20	\$87.98
Employee & children	\$133.03	\$98.41
Employee & Spouse	\$141.91	\$104.96
Full Family	\$155.53	\$114.96

PAYROLL DEDUCTIONS OVER 22 PAYS

(Beginning with the November 13, 2009 pay and ending with the pay of September 3, 2010)

	<u>PERSONAL CHOICE PPO</u>	<u>KEYSTONE EAST HMO</u>
Employee	\$45.56	\$33.43
Employee & child	\$92.11	\$67.98
Employee & children	\$102.79	\$76.05
Employee & Spouse	\$109.66	\$81.10
Full Family	\$120.18	\$88.83

MONTHLY MEDICAL RATES **FOR EARLY RETIREES AGE 55 THROUGH 65**

(NOVEMBER 2009 THROUGH OCTOBER 2010)

PERSONAL CHOICE - RETIREE'S MONTHLY PREMIUM

employee	\$8301.96	no teacher contribution*
employee/child	\$16765.80 - 10,000 = 6765.80 divided by 12 =	\$563.82*
employee/chren	\$18710.76 - 10,000 = 8710.76 divided by 12 =	\$725.90*
employee/spouse	\$19959.72 - 10,000 = 9959.72 divided by 12 =	\$829.98*
family	\$21875.64 - 10,000 = 11875.64 divided by 12 =	\$989.64*

KEYSTONE HMO - RETIREE'S MONTHLY PREMIUM

employee	\$6685.44	no teacher contribution*
employee/child	\$13596.72 - 10,000 = 3596.72 divided by 12 =	\$299.73*
employee/chren	\$15209.28 - 10,000 = 5209.28 divided by 12 =	\$434.11*
employee/spouse	\$16220.52 - 10,000 = 6220.52 divided by 12 =	\$518.38*
family	\$17766.48 - 10,000 = 7766.48 divided by 12 =	\$647.21*

* Retirees between the ages of 55 and 58 will pay the above monthly premium plus the monthly teacher contribution listed below.

EXAMPLE: a retired teacher between the age of 55 and 58 who is on Personal Choice with Employee/Spouse coverage would pay \$829.98 plus \$201.04 for a total of \$1031.02 per month. Once the teacher reaches age 58, that teacher would pay \$829.98 per month.

<u>PERSONAL CHOICE 25/35/70</u>	<u>KEYSTONE EAST HMO</u>
<u>TEACHER CONTRIBUTION</u>	<u>TEACHER CONTRIBUTION</u>

Employee	\$83.53	\$61.28
Employee & child	\$168.87	\$124.64
Employee&children	\$188.46	\$139.42
Employee & Spouse	\$201.04	\$148.69
Full Family	\$220.33	\$162.86