

THE MARIST NEWSLINE



September 2009

Dear Marist Parents,
On behalf of the Marist staff and community, it is my sincere pleasure to *welcome, 9th graders, new students and families* to one of the very best high schools in the state of Oregon. We are committed to providing your students with an outstanding preparation for next steps — strong academics, a broad set of leadership and life-skill opportunities in athletics, arts and activities, a safe and nurturing environment and a faith-centered community.

In the coming weeks and months we will be regularly sharing in these newsletters, at parent nights and in emails important information to help you be well-informed and supportive of the work we do *together, parents and school. Read this newsletter, front to back, please*, it has good information and we count on it being a primary means for us communicating to you.

This month I would like to take the bulk of this letter to talk with you about the *Essentials for an Excellent Experience* for students at Marist. I've

been in education for 23 years. I'm very sincere and earnest about these keys and want you to know that they form the back-bone of the way we make decisions and manage the work we do at Marist.

Parents are the primary key to student performance in high schools. You have spent 14+ years building foundations on which schools build strong students. We'll work hard, we'll always be striving for better educational experiences for your students — but, you are still the #1 key to student achievement and success. Marist is committed to support your role by *involving you and communicating with you* as effectively as we can.

Some helpful strategies — take advantage to wisely use **Power School** (our on-line grade program) to monitor and support your students as they tackle the rigors of a challenging program at Marist. You be the judge on how often you check grades and how you 'confront' your student about their performance.

Use staff email and/or phone calls when you feel that a 1-to-1 conversation is needed between you and a teacher or counselor,

but consider asking your student to initiate those contacts on their own as part of them growing up, as well.

Take advantage of *Back to School Night on Sept. 16 at 7:00 P.M.* to get to meet your student's teachers and to get a "feel" for how the class is structured and how it will progress. Come to *class parent nights* put on by our Counseling Department staff to help keep you informed about important dates, tests and opportunities that will be coming your student's way in the year ahead.

Call me or any member of our Staff if you have questions or concerns. We are here to help and point you in the right direction, supporting you in the work you're doing as parents.

The *Second Essential* for an excellent experience is to have a *Strong Staff* — both teachers and support staff. Marist is blessed with an exceptional staff with many of our core academic classes being taught by teachers with Masters degrees in that subject area. We are committed to hiring and keeping those staff members, providing them with a fair and equitable salary and benefits package. We have a ways to go to

meet that pay standard but see the new Development Office as being a key to finding additional resources outside of tuition dollars.

The *Third Essential* is that we are committed to a *Faith-centered* environment that not only teaches the theology and tradition of our Catholic faith each year to each student, but also asks to students to learn about the our faith as practiced in our liturgies (all-school Masses, team Masses, Lenten Friday morning voluntary Masses, reconciliation and Christmas services), but also experienced in our outstanding retreat programs and in our Christian Service (to family, church and community) requirements for graduation. We acknowledge and rely on the leadership of Father Dave Cullings and our Campus Ministry Office (Rick Martin, Director), but also see our Staff living their 'vocation' of educating young people, working as part of the Body of Christ — We are one!

A *Fourth Essential* to a "thriving" high school is to *take care of the finances and facilities* so that we operate for years to come on a set of fundamentals —

that we will offer the Marist experience to as many young people as possible through the increased use of tuition reimbursement and development resources, that we will pay our staff a fair and equitable compensation package, that we will maintain and improve our facilities to provide students a safe and comfortable environment in which to learn and play, and that we will be good stewards of the money and facilities, following acceptable budgetary and accounting practices, including regular financial review and Board of Directors' oversight of the budget and spending.

In the months ahead I will be sharing with you more in-depth looks at each of these areas, along with *strategic plans* that our Board, Staff and Administration are developing to maintain and improve the wonderful opportunities we provide students at Marist. As always, thank you for your support and prayers. Please call or write with questions, concerns, compliments and ideas. I remain faithfully yours,

Jay Conroy, Principal.



Monthly Coffee and “What’s Happening at Marist?”

Parents are a central part of Marist — and we as Staff want you to feel welcome. We want you to know what’s going on at school, be caught up on the latest initiatives, pitch-in where you can, share your hopes and concerns, and just be “in community.”

In addition to traditional class parent information nights and back to school night, we’re inviting all parents to get together for a cup of coffee and morning treat once a month. “*Parent Coffee and Conversation — Marist friends and staff.*” We’ll have a short ‘targeted’ presentation from Jay, our principal, or a Staff member each month. The balance of the “hour-or-so” will be talking with you about current happenings or initiatives at Marist, including any questions or topics you’ve been dying to hear about. We’ll have all the coffee, tea and treats you can handle and

All parents are welcome — but we’ll be targeting our presentations to parents of certain classes each month — starting off with 9th grade parents in September, then seniors (October), juniors (November) and sophomores (December). We’ll keep it going in the new year, as well, if parents find it worthwhile

and enjoyable. If you’re interested in helping with “treats,” please call Terrie Clemens at Marist’ front office (686-2234) to volunteer.

First Coffee is Tuesday, Sept. 8 (New student day) 9:30-10:30A.M.

Mark your calendars: 1st Thursday of the Month — **Oct. 1** (12th grade focus); **Nov. 5** (11th grade focus); **Dec. 3** (10th grade focus). 8:10 – 9:15 A.M. Parking is best on the entry-side of the parking lot.

Back-to-School Night and Spaghetti Get-Together

Come greet old friends and welcome new members to the Marist community. *Back-to-School Night for parents* starts with spaghetti and all the fixings, a glass of ice tea and good company. Come sit in the quad, catch up on the summer news and get ready for a good evening with your students’ teachers.

Food will be served from 5:45-6:45 P.M. Parents assemble in the gym to start the school portion of the evening at 7:00 P.M.

Thanks to the “Varsity Boys and Girls” (a wonderful group of Marist parents who did their fair share of parent nights in earlier years and truly enjoy welcoming others to the Marist community.)

Marist Volunteer Program

Mr. Jerry Ragan, moderator of the Marist Volunteer Program (MVP), announces that the student group is happy to be coordinating school-wide outreach programs for the new school year. Please put the following dates on your calendar and participate fully in as many of the events as you can. We are called to follow the Gospel imperative to serve those most in need and the MVP encourages all members of the Marist community to join us in these efforts.

- Our coming events are:
- Sept. 28-Oct. 2: 20/30 Club *Coats for Kids* drive;
- Oct. 12-16: bottle/can drive for the Carmelite Convent;
- Nov. 16-20: *Dollar Drive* for the Eugene Mission Thanksgiving Dinner;
- Dec. 7-18: assist with *Christmas Gifts for Teens* program;
- Feb. 1-9: canned food drive for St. Vincent de Paul;
- Feb 17-April 4: *Project Starfish* for the First Place Family Center;
- June 1-12: *Clean Out Your Desk* project for the Quixote Center.
- Other projects happen on an as-needed basis. We hope to respond by including our student body in service.

The legacy of the Class of '09

This has been a very tough economic year for many families in our community. But thanks to a generous gift from the Class of 2009, Marist was able to offer tuition assistance to several incoming freshmen that might not otherwise have been able to attend.

How can we possibly value the educational experience these students will now have? This is truly a lasting legacy.

**Thank you,
Class of 2009!**

Calling all International Students

Global Perspectives for Youth, LLC invites all Marist International Students and their host families for an afternoon of delicious food and fun under the leafy trees in the park area of Bethesda Lutheran Church on Saturday, Sept. 19 from noon until 2:00 P.M.

This will be a great time to socialize with each

other and also enjoy some American games! Please bring two items to share at our potluck table. Hot dogs, buns, condiments, drinks, all tableware and dessert will be provided for everyone.

Please *RSVP* to LuAnn Langford by Sept. 15 either by phone at (541) 517-5915 or e-mail at luannlangford@gpyinternational.org.



Marist teacher gets training

From the "Catholic Sentinel," Aug. 14, 2009



Sr. Patricia Earl with Mrs. Stacey Baker. (Photo by Marymount University)

Stacey Baker, Marist's Dean of Students, went to Virginia this summer to learn about school administration skills with an emphasis on Catholic values and identity.

It's an online program, but there is a required on-campus summer session at Marymount University in Arlington, Va.

Now in its ninth year, Marmount's Master of Education in Catholic School Leadership Program draws Catholic school teachers and administrators from across the country.

"The changing demographics of Catholic school faculty have created a need for formalized instruction in faith formation," says Immaculate Heart of Mary Sister Patricia Earl, director of the Marymount program.

Until the mid-1960s, U.S. Catholic schools were staffed by priests, brothers and sisters who made up 95 percent of the faculty.

Today's American Catholic school system, however, is largely staffed by Catholic laity.

The program aims to ensure that the next generation of Catholics can receive the benefits of an education with a strong catholic identity.

Marist Principal Jay Conroy stated that "we are fortunate that Stacey has elected to pursue her administrative leadership training and education. Her professors and presenters are some of the very best leaders in successful Catholic education. We're happy to support her work and are grateful for the extra time commitments she is giving to her growth and education."

From the desk of the Assistant Principal

I am very excited to welcome you back for another great year at Marist Catholic High School. Over the summer we have been working extremely hard to get the buildings and campus grounds spruced up and ready for the return of students. Several projects have been completed including:

1. Hot water to the girls' and boys' locker rooms:

For several years, we have not had hot water in either locker room. This summer, thanks to the generosity of donors at the Auction and the hard work of Harvey & Price Co., we have installed new hot water heaters and storage tanks. We are excited about this major upgrade and know that it will be a huge benefit to our students.

2. Replacement of the 200-Wing restroom sinks:

These sinks were circa 1969. We replaced them with new plumbing and more reliable modern basins.

3. New paint on doors, trim, light poles and benches:

Most of our entry way doors, window trim, light poles and benches have weathered over the years — we freshened these areas up with several coats of paint.

In addition to these projects, our Maintenance Department staff have been hard at work all summer making the campus look great.



Rick Gardner, Assistant Principal

We also have changes coming to our lunch program. Sodexo Food Service has agreed to be our lunch service provider on campus. Sodexo provides food service for the Eugene School District and O'Hara Catholic School. The company comes highly recommended and has been hard at work on our campus helping to upgrade our kitchen. They will be able to provide our students with a wider variety of meal options at a lower price than what we were able to provide serving lunches in-house.

We are very excited about this change in our food service and are confident that our students will benefit greatly.

On the academic side of things, I would like to remind students to attend **Welcome Back Day** on Thursday, Sept. 3. We will be handing out the final version of class schedules for the 2009-2010 school year. Several students made schedule change requests

over the summer and most legitimate requests were honored. Please be aware that **Counselors will only make schedule changes for error corrections, open periods or level changes.** No schedule changes will be made for lunches, free periods or teacher preference.

Also, please note that **the last day to change schedules is Wednesday, Sept. 16.** After that day no changes will be considered unless the teacher approves a level change and there is space in a class. We must be strict in order to provide continuity to our teachers and students in the classroom.

Once again, I am very excited to see our students return to Marist and I know we are headed for a fantastic school year.

Science teacher returns

We're very pleased to announce that Mrs. June Miller has accepted the position of Physical Science and Anatomy and Physiology teacher for the coming year. June returns to Marist where she taught for 8 ½ years before taking a 'sabbatical' of sorts to work in the Medical Technology field for the last five

years. Her two daughters graduated from Marist and she sees Marist as simply an outstanding school and opportunity to work with great kids and a great staff.

June has a Bachelor's degree in Medical Technology from Illinois State and a Bachelor's degree in Biology and a Masters of Arts in Education from St. Xavier. She is a native of Chicago where she attended Catholic schools through her graduation from high school.

June's background in Medical Technology fits perfectly with Anatomy and Physiology and her positive, high energy personality is ideal for working with 9th graders in the integrated science approach in our Physics (Physical Science) curriculum.

Marist science colleagues Pat Wagner and Ryan Moser were instrumental in both wooing her back to Marist and in singing her praises as being simply outstanding in the way she is able to work with the full spectrum of learning styles, as well as her ability to make connections with juniors and seniors who are exploring medical related fields.

She has already agreed to work with Moser this coming August to do some curriculum review and update of the Physical Science coursework, in anticipation of jumping right in this September with our new 9th graders.

Campus Parking and Traffic Flow

We want to maintain a safe driving and walking environment for everyone while at the same time keeping traffic flowing. The aerial map below of our campus is zoned as follows:

- Two orange *Student and Visitor* parking areas;
- *Handicapped parking* (blue) is in the first

Student and Visitor Parking area by the Main Entrance to the school;

- Red *no parking at any time* and *Staff parking only at all times* areas;
- Yellow-arrowed traffic lane for *vehicles dropping off or picking up students*.
- Green-arrowed *drive-through lane*.

White arrows show the counterclockwise direction

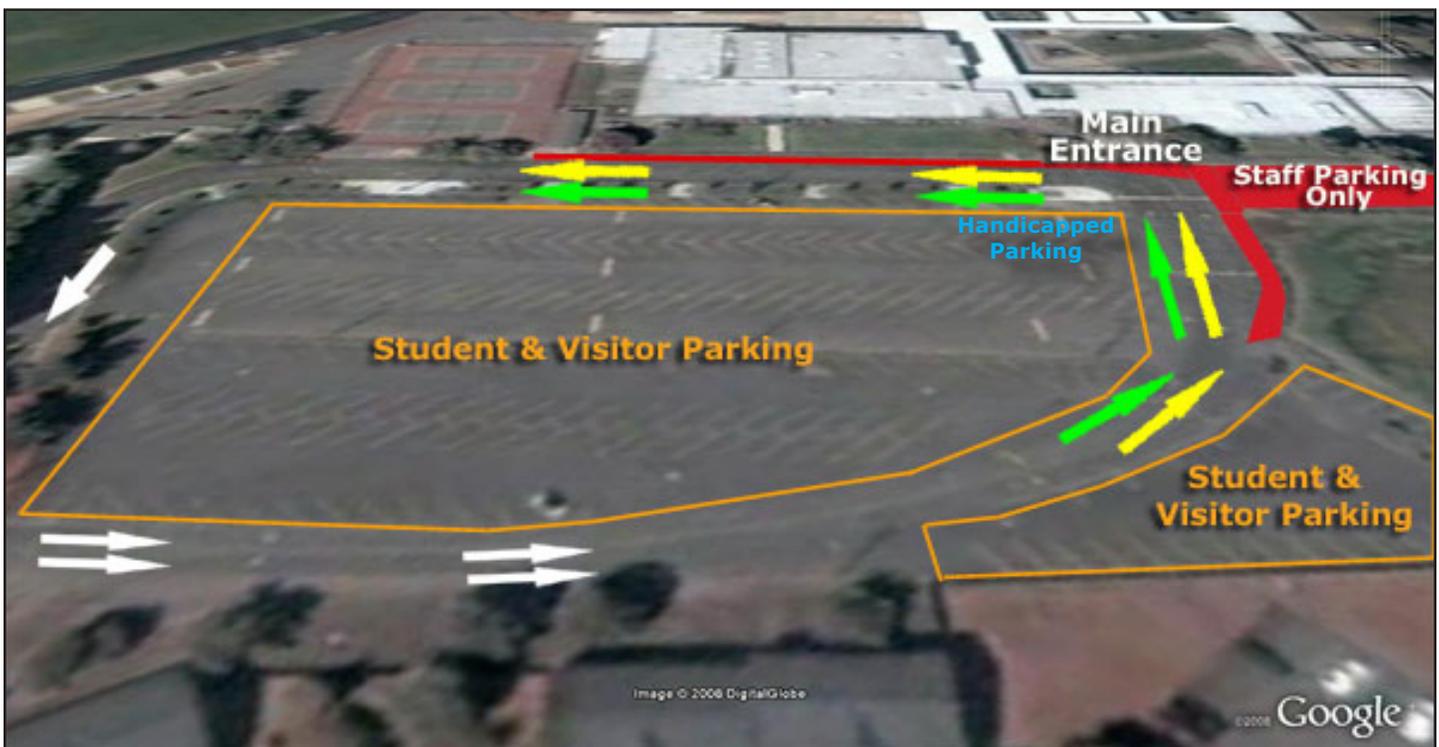
of the flow of traffic when you arrive on campus from Kingsley Road.

Traffic backs up in the mornings and afternoons when one or two vehicles stop to let their student off right at the front entrance of the school, rather than pulling ahead as far as possible toward the Bob Devereaux Theatre entrance and tennis courts. Please

help traffic flow by pulling ahead to the Theatre entrance — *please do not stop at the Main Entrance or you may find yourself holding up the whole line behind you!*

For students and visitors please do not use the *Staff Parking Only* area.

Please be aware that the *campus speed limit is 10 MPH*.



Calling the school

To report sick or late students, call 681-5485 or 681-5487. Do not call the Main Office for attendance matters.

Please note that the Main Office Staff will not answer phone calls from 8:00-8:10 A.M. each day in order to participate in morning prayer with our school community.

Thank You!

Campus Ministry

"Love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind and love your neighbor as yourself." Matthew 22:38-39

This greatest commandment is the theme of our opening Mass celebrating the beginning of the 2009-2010 school year. Please join us for the Mass of the Holy Spirit on Thursday, Sept. 17 at 9:25 A.M. in the Marist gym. Parents are welcome to join us.

LITURGY NEWS

In addition to our regular schedule of all-school Masses and prayer services, daily Mass or a prayer service is available for students and staff on all block schedule days. On non-block days, Mass is offered as requested. These dates are announced at the beginning of each week and are celebrated in the chapel. Students are encouraged to come to the chapel to pray daily or for special occasions: Does a friend need a special prayer? Are you in special need of God's grace? Are you celebrating a birthday? These are but a few of the many good reasons to join together in prayer at the midday.

An all-sophomore retreat will take place on Tuesday, Oct. 13. This will be a school-day-long event for all members of the sophomore class as well as a new retreat experience this

year, intended to help our sophomores get their year started well. Look for more information in October.

CHRISTIAN SERVICE

Class of 2010: Verification of your 50 hours of service and the 10 corresponding journal entries are due to Mrs. Ferrari on or before Friday, Sept. 18. The final Christian Service Experience requirements will be handled in senior theology. Thank you for your service!

Class of 2011: Your first 10 hours of local service must be completed by the end of the first quarter (Nov. 6), and the two corresponding journal entries are due the first week of the second quarter (Nov. 9). Thank you for your service!

Class of 2012 and 2013: Your theology teacher will be introducing you to your class service projects.

Please contact Mrs. Julie Ferrari at 284-7533 or jferrari@marisths.org with any service questions or inquiries.

RETREATS

Retreats take place for all grade levels during the school year. Specific dates for these retreats can be obtained through the "Campus Ministry" pages of the Marist website or

at the Campus Ministry Office.

As many who have been here for a while know, retreats are one of the best things we do at Marist. If you have never been on a retreat, give it a shot this year – there is nothing to lose and plenty to gain. Freshman students will get a taste of retreat life through the Lock-In scheduled at the end of September; an all-night event filled with games, activities, discussion, fun, and food. More on that later.

Upcoming Campus Ministry Events

Mass of the Holy Spirit, Sept. 17;

Formation Retreat, Sept. 19-21;

Freshman Lock-In, Sept. 26-27;

Sophomore Day Retreat (In-school), Oct. 13;

Junior Boys' Encounter #1, Oct. 17-19;

Sophomore Parent Night, Oct. 26.

Campus Ministry Staff

Mr. Rick Martin,
Director of Campus Ministry;

Mrs. Julie Ferrari,
Christian Service and Liturgy Coordinator;

Mrs. Terrie Clemens,
Campus Ministry Assistant.

Building the future on 40 years of tradition

Welcome back to a new school year. Beginning over a year ago, the Marist Foundation and Marist Catholic High School began an effort to build the Marist Development program to achieve both the growth of immediate and long term resources for the school. The school and Foundation have agreed on a new approach with the school leading the operational effort and the foundation managing and promoting long term endowment. The new Marist Development Department will coordinate that effort.

Reading the history of Marist and talking to its supporters, one is struck by several things:

- There is great good will for the school that transcends both time and the past leaders.
- There is a growing sense that the school has great potential to be truly excellent if it develops a plan to get there.
- The school prudently budgeted on both expenses and enrollment goals.



Tom Simon, Director of Development

Despite the economic times, Marist is in a place where it can look ahead and be proactive.

- Marist wants to be excellent, open to all and a place of faith.

The Marist Foundation acted for many years as the fundraiser for the school. It will still be a full partner with the school and work to build the long term endowment supporting Marist.

Traditions such as the Marist Auction will continue. Jay and others are working to build a greater sense of community and pride in the school. The development program will

be an important part of those efforts.

We are all part of the development of a great school. To that end, both the Marist Foundation Board of Directors and the Marist School Board are currently sending out invitations to parents and supporters to the first annual “Marist Appreciation Reception.” Scheduled for Sept. 23 from 5:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M. in the Marist courtyard, this reception will be your chance to meet the leaders of both the school and foundation boards. Jay Conroy will give a brief update on the school strategic planning process and our vision for the year ahead. This is a great way to meet and speak with key decision makers looking for your input on the future of Marist.

Thank you for being part of Marist. To *RSVP* to the reception, or learn more about the efforts of the new development program, please contact the Marist Development Office at 681-5470 or email me at tsimon@marisths.org.



ALL 2009-10 STUDENTS,
 MARK YOUR CALENDARS!
WELCOME BACK DAY
 THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2009

IT'S TIME TO . . .

HAVE YOUR YEARBOOK PHOTO TAKEN

YOU MUST BE IN DRESS CODE! Bring your Lifetouch packets for ordering!

AND (Seniors will take photos for ID purposes only.)

GET YOUR STUDENT BODY ID CARDS -ALL GRADES

AND

PICK UP YOUR DAILY PLANNERS AND FINAL SCHEDULES

All schedule changes should be made prior to this day.

AND

GET YOUR LOCKERS SET UP -\$7/LOCK

Lockers will be assigned and locks handed out to all.

AND

PICK UP YOUR 2008-09 YEARBOOKS

Contact tcooper@marisths.org if you are unsure you purchased a book. 2009 grads are welcome.

AND

PURCHASE YOUR 2009-10 YEARBOOKS -\$70/BOOK

Order form provided below. Price will increase to \$75/book on Jan 1, 2010.

SCHEDULE BY LAST NAME.	G-K	8a.m. - 9a.m.
	L-Q	9a.m. - 10a.m.
	R-Z	10a.m. - 11a.m.
	A-F	11a.m. - 12p.m.

MARIST HIGH SCHOOL

2009-2010 YEARBOOKS

ORDER FORM

QTY _____ X \$70 PER BOOK (PRICE WILL GO UP TO \$75 ON JAN 1, 2010) = _____

STUDENT NAME (S) AND GRADE _____

