

Thank you to those that participated in our Parent's Club Meeting on November 11, 2015 held in our theater! A special thank you goes out to Patti Fabrizio for helping to promote and coordinate the event.

The forum presented an opportunity for parents of the Saint Patrick community to learn more about current and future doings from the principal's prospective. In addition, families were given an opportunity to ask questions and further discuss other issues that needed clarification or additional explanation.

Below is a brief summary of the agenda items:

### **Open House Results**

The 2 days were a tremendous success due to the hard work of our faculty, staff, parents, and alumni. We had over 300 people take an interactive and informative tour learning more about the many great programs that Saint Patrick High School has to offer. In addition to our open house success, we are currently on pace to have over 400 shadows visit the hallways of St. Patrick High School!

### **New Programs and Courses for the Future**

We are currently researching and exploring the possibility of implementing STEM classes into our Science curriculum for the 2017-2018 school year. Next year, we are looking to expand the curriculum by adding AP Economics, AP French, and Computer Programming. In addition, we are looking to make our Entrepreneurship class a full year. We are looking to blend this with our Movers and Shakers program to help connect our students to parents and alums in the world of business and service. Students will have the opportunity to create and fully develop their own product or service and pitch it to a group of potential investors—think of it like *Shark Tank*!

### **Professional Development & Resources for Faculty with Technology**

On October 30, the four Chicagoland Lasallian high schools (St. Patrick, De La Salle, Montini, and St. Joseph) participated in the 18<sup>th</sup> Lasallian Convocation held at St. Joseph's High School in Westchester. The focus centered around technology. Teachers shared best practices using technology from various schools.

On September 9 and October 28, our faculty participated in two professional development days that focused on: 1) using Social media as an instructional tool; 2) infusing technology into current instruction. The discussion was excellent and thought provoking.

As part of our AdvancEd evaluation, we were charged with creating a technology team to look at current and future issues regarding technology. This team has met 3 times since the beginning of the year. They have begun looking at the following areas within technology:

- a. Budget
- a. Professional Development
- b. Refresh Cycles for all hardware & software
- c. Communication of Goals
- d. Support

We have discovered that Office 365 is a free service for those that are involved in education—including students. We have begun experimenting with those applications on multiple platforms.

In addition, we are looking at the possibility of adding a technology coach for the 2016-2017 school year. Their role would include providing professional development and technology support to all teachers and students.

### **Security**

While initial discussion has taken place with our students about the possibility of having an off-duty police officer (who would be a St. Patrick parent) present during the school day, final details have not been completed. A pool of parents have offered their services to this project. The next step will be to formally present this to our families and any other interested members of the community in a town hall fashion. Further details will be provided at a later time.

### **Subbing**

The school is currently looking for people who would be able to volunteer and substitute at St. Patrick High School. It would especially be helpful on our heavier faculty absence days when people are involved in retreats. It is preferred that someone is a certified substitute teacher, but not a mandatory requirement.

**Our next Parent's Club Meeting will be April 13, 2016 at 6:30 PM in the library. We invite you to participate in our meeting and discussion.**