



*Growing leaders who turn
FAITH into ACTION.*

JANUARY, 2017

DATES TO REMEMBER:

Jan- Buy tickets and sign up to volunteer for Be the Spark! (Dinner Auction Fundraiser)

Jan 23- Family Service Project at St. Vincent's Kitchen in Boise

Jan 24- Open Enrollment Registration Meetings (12:00, 4:30, 6:30)

Feb 4- Be the Spark! Dinner Auction Fundraiser

Feb 10- Deadline for Open Enrollment Registration

PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

Dear St. Ignatius School Community,

It is such an honor to be the founding principal of St. Ignatius Catholic School- the first Catholic school built in the Treasure Valley in over 50 years. The Holy Apostles community has graciously given time, talent and treasure to making this dream become a reality. There is no denying that the Spirit is at work in this process.

Neighbors and parishioners who come by can see the daily progress on the 56,000 square foot, modern, and innovative building that will become our school. You watch the steel rise, the walls solidify, and the roof set. Piece by piece, our school is being built.

As the structure rises, my work is in filling that space with life. My days are spent carefully researching and designing the best academic design possible, creating plans for a vibrant school culture, and hiring the amazing staff who will bring our mission to life. It is good work. It is important work. I can't wait to see it come to life in August of 2017.

St. Ignatius recognized that his greatest impact in the world was through education. Rooted in this Jesuit tradition of education, our program recognizes the unique gifts of each individual child and encourages that child to reach her highest potential. The academic program is highly individualized and seeks to foster a love for learning and personal growth. Our commitment to faith and social justice ensures that our students' abilities are used to make a meaningful impact in our community and the world.

I am blessed and grateful to be a part of this project. Let all we do continue to be "For the greater glory of God"- *Ad Majorem Dei Gloriam!*

Peace,

Andi Kane, Principal, St. Ignatius Catholic School

Academic Excellence • Faith Formation • Social Justice • Service • Strength of Community

Faculty: Andi Kane, Principal

Hometown: Boise, Idaho

Education: Gonzaga University, BA in Music and English; University of Notre Dame, Masters in Education

Experience: Mrs. Kane has been working in Catholic education for more than 11 years—first as a teacher and then as a Vice Principal.

Family: Mrs. Kane met her husband, Sean, at Gonzaga University in a student a capella group. Music is not the only thing they have in common however; Sean is also an educator, teaching high school choir in Boise. They have two beautiful young daughters- one of whom will be a St. Ignatius Gray Wolf next year!

FOCUS ON FACULTY MEET PRINCIPAL, ANDI KANE

How do you help students reach their highest potential?

"Set high expectations. Create an environment where it is safe to take risks and make mistakes. Set higher expectations. Let students know that they are special and unique. Never settle for status quo."

What is something you do to make your students feel special?

"I pray for them. As I prepare for the first group of St. Ignatius students, I pray every day for the little ones who will walk through our doors. They may not know it now, but they are already cherished, valued and dearly loved."

What part of education are you most passionate about?

"I love students discovering how to take responsibility for their own learning. When this happens you see students who truly love to be curious, solve problems and ask questions and who delight in their own personal growth. When learning takes this form, it becomes meaningful and leads to action. When that action is geared towards social justice, a student's learning reaches the most important stage- the place where learning makes the world a better place."

What is something that people might not know about you?

"I lived in Spain for a summer and visited the home of St. Ignatius of Loyola in the Basque country. I can't wait to go back someday!"

HSA HIGHLIGHTS- HILLARY SMITH, HSA PRESIDENT

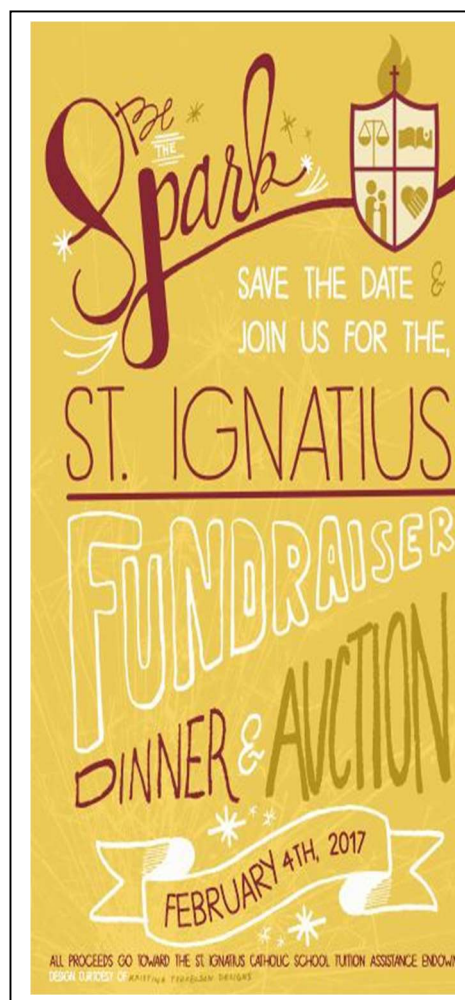
A mighty flame followeth a tiny spark. ~ Dante

Please join us in celebrating the first ever St. Ignatius Dinner & Auction ***Be the Spark!*** The evening promises to be a delight with dinner, drinks, entertainment and exceptional items at auction. Best of all, you can enjoy your evening of food, friends, and fun knowing that you are contributing to a great cause - providing the best education and learning environment for children from all over the Treasure Valley!

Providing a "Best in Class" Catholic education is worthwhile but costly. Tuition alone does not cover the expense of paying excellent teachers, maintaining a safe and secure learning environment, and delivering a variety of essential curriculum. Your generous support enables the children of St. Ignatius to grow as individuals in a Christ-centered learning environment and prepares them to contribute to our society by giving them the tools they need to make our world a better place.

Whether you donate auction items, secure advertising for your company, gather friends to sit at your table or volunteer at the event, ***Be the Spark*** is a wonderful way to become involved with the St. Ignatius community. Most importantly, by participating in this event you will directly contribute to making one of the most profound differences in the life a child.

If you are ready to ***Be the Spark*** and make a difference in the future of our school, please contact HSA President Hillary Smith at hillarysmith111@gmail.com.



All proceeds from this event will directly benefit our tuition assistance program. In supporting this fund, you will contribute to the academic excellence and faith formation of children who would not otherwise be able to attend St. Ignatius School.



PROGRESS REPORT - KAREN MAHONEY

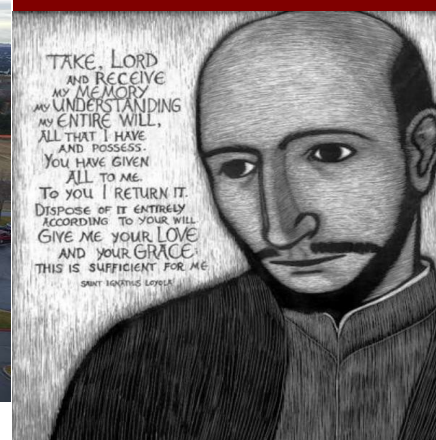
On November 4th, we celebrated the topping of our building! This is a construction milestone. Future Grey Wolves helped Principal Kane to count down to raising the beams in place. What made this event more special is that parishioners and St. Ignatius families signed the topmost beams with their names and the names of loved ones-- another demonstration of how this school and parish are knit together.

The topping was also a sign that construction is on schedule! By mid-December, families should see that "section A" (aka the preK-3rd grade wing) will be "dried in" - meaning that the roof won't leak, the exterior walls are sealed, windows are installed, and exterior doors are in place. Section B (aka the entrance and gym) and section C (4th-8th grade wing) will follow as the crews work from west to east on the project. Having the construction roll in this fashion has allowed trades to work simultaneously and not get in each other's way.

Andi and a small army have been working on making decisions on furniture throughout the whole building - which, when you think about it, is A LOT of furniture! We've decided to have flexible seating in the classrooms - meaning a combination of desks and tables. Research papers and case studies support that this is the most conducive environment to encourage learning. We are working with local furniture suppliers who will bid on the project with hopes to have everything ordered by early January - ensuring that every student has a seat next August!

And while all of this deciding on what to purchase sounds fun (and it is), we are ever mindful that we need to be good stewards of the monies people have contributed to bring this school to fruition. To date, we have received \$4.6M in campaign contributions and the parish has contributed another \$5.5M toward the project. We are so very grateful for every single contribution because each one matters! Construction costs are expected to cost \$10.55M. Additionally, we anticipated approximately \$1M in soft costs to get the school ready for first day of school. These costs include curriculum materials, technology (computers, printers, displays), furniture, etc. If you do the math, we are falling short about \$1.45M. Our fundraising efforts continue - pledges are still trickling in. Because of our potential funding shortfall, we are considering the contingency of a construction loan with the Diocese.

We are encouraged by where things are at in the overall process and we appreciate the ongoing support of Holy Apostles parishioners and St. Ignatius families.



INNOVATIONS IN LEARNING

As most of you are aware, St. Ignatius Catholic School will be modeled in the Ignatian traditions of education. We are passionate about the infusion of Ignatian Spirituality into the school and throughout our academic curriculum. Ignatian spirituality is such a vivid and yet practical application of our Catholic faith into the world around us. It encourages constant discernment, reflection, growth, and action. These important processes will be specifically taught and infused across subject areas.

Ignatian spirituality teaches us how to be free and find love around us, and to see that God is present in everything. This Ignatian spirituality fits perfectly into the learning environment because it recognizes that each person has his/her own unique gifts, and encourages those gifts to be developed to the fullest. What an amazing school environment that spirituality creates!

UPCOMING EVENTS

JANUARY 23 - FAMILY SERVICE PROJECT

One of our primary missions at St. Ignatius School is to inspire students to make a difference in their community and in the lives of others. We want to facilitate the desire to serve by offering families service opportunities in the community. Our first such opportunity is planned for January 23 from 5-8 pm at St. Vincent's kitchen in Boise. We will be helping prepare, serve and clean up for their "Evening Dinner Service" for families in need. This is a great opportunity to spend important time as a family, and to get acquainted with other families enrolled at St. Ignatius.

If you are interested in participating, please email Sarah Doering at scdoering@gmail.com for further details and to RSVP. Space is somewhat limited for this first project, but Sarah has additional dates at this venue for which assistance is needed!

St. Ignatius Catholic School

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Connect with us!

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/stignatiuscatholic/school/

Twitter: @stignatiusid

Instagram: st.ignatiusmeridian

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

We can't wait to start building the St. Ignatius School Community! During the months leading up to the first day of school, we will be hosting events to allow families of the St. Ignatius community to get to know one another before we open our doors in August. We want every student at St. Ignatius to arrive on the first day of school to some familiar faces and new friends. We will offer a range of opportunities, so we are hopeful that each family will find something of interest and an event that will work for your schedule. We hope you will join us to start building the St. Ignatius family.

RECENT EVENTS:

On December 6, we hosted a Middle School Forum. It was a great opportunity for students to hear more about our exciting plans for the St. Ignatius Middle School, and the many ways that St. Ignatius Middle School will be set apart from the rest of St. Ignatius School and from other middle schools in the area. This forum gave students an opportunity to have a voice at St. Ignatius. Students provided us with their thoughts on how we can build our middle school to help students grow to their highest potential. Students also had a chance to start thinking about some traditions that we can start at St. Ignatius to start building school spirit. The middle school is so crucial to building an energized and spirited student community. We want this group to set the positive tone for our entire student body!

We will be hosting additional Middle School Forums this spring. We are hoping these forums will provide students with an opportunity to get to know one another, spark new friendships and get students excited about St. Ignatius Middle School. At our next forum, students will have a chance to hear from Bishop Kelly students who attended area Catholic middle schools. These students will provide insight regarding their own Catholic school experiences, and how Catholic school prepared them for success in high school. We will keep you updated on upcoming forums and we encourage your middle school students to participate!

We need VOLUNTEERS for our first ever St. Ignatius Dinner & Auction ***Be the Spark!***

We're using SignUp.com (the leading online signup and reminder tool) to organize our upcoming activity.

Here's how it works in 3 easy steps:

1. **Click this link** to go to our invitation page on

SignUp.com: <http://signup.com/go/R4uA9H>

2. **Enter your email address:** (You will NOT need to register an account on SignUp.com)

3. **Sign up!** Choose your spots - SignUp.com will send you an automated confirmation and reminders. Easy!

St. Ignatius School Mission

St. Ignatius is a Christ-centered Catholic school committed to the Ignatian traditions of academic excellence and teaching students to live their Catholic faith through service and the promotion of justice. Our community - school, families, parish - seeks to inspire students to reach their potential, to act with initiative and integrity, and to engage the world as a place where God can be found in all things.