

OPEN
September '09

Bi-monthly
Newsletter

New Head of School Shares Vision

*Where
we're
Headed*

At the Faculty and Staff Retreat in Newman Hall on September 3, new Head of School Bob Costello explains how we will co-create the strategic plan for the future of the school.



Retreat Leads Faculty and Staff to Reflect on Uniqueness of All



All of these stones have a similar look and feel," said Mrs. Cathy Marshall, religion teacher. "But you need to find what is unique or special about the stone you have chosen," she told her colleagues.

With this ice breaker, Mrs. Marshall challenged

the teachers and staff members at the September retreat to realize that they are collectively alike, perhaps, but are uniquely individual.

Likewise, all of the students sitting in the classrooms are alike in many ways. She urged them to realize It's the teacher's job to see the uniqueness of each per-

son who crosses their paths.

In the opening prayer of the retreat, the teachers asked God for help to "see difficulties among students so we can be instruments of peace between them" and for help for "us to listen to them and to hear You in them."

Religion teacher Cathy Marshall offers stones to art teacher Sue Preston, Director of Guidance Kathy Steciuk and lower school teacher Irene Crum. The stones were a visual ice breaker activity to show the teachers and staff how important it is to treat everyone as individuals.



FACELIFT AT OP

Like a breath of fresh air, new landscaping now surrounds the property. Not only have shrubs and flowers been planted throughout the campus, but extensive weeding and discarding of dead trees have helped to open up the visual accessibility to Morris Avenue.

Orientation Day *Shines*

Seventh graders, *below*, check schedules that they were given as they walked through the lobby doors.

The new boys and freshmen were greeted by Admissions Director Kevin Donnelly and were welcomed by Head of School Bob Costello,

Guidance Director Dr. Kathy Steciuk, Activities Coordinator Bill Martin, Athletic Director Pat Gist and Dean of Academics Owen McGowan.

That day, boys opened their lockers, found their classrooms and got to meet their teachers with seniors guides.



Spirit Shop moms get ready to handle business in the lobby.



Ram Tough Seniors

Student Government President Nick Luther, center, talks with Tim Dore, right and Sean Doddy, all part of the leadership team.

Those First Few Days: Memories in the Making

On Friday, September 11, Mass was celebrated by Fr. Peter who told the congregation of Oratory family members, "We are called to be better tomorrow than we are today."



Senior boys learn of the new sports that will be offered in gym class this year.



Students in math class work problems so that Mr. Mike Cranley can tell what he has to review.



"Strive to be the best you can be..."

All photos by Susan Dougherty

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