

MISSION STATEMENT

Grand Traverse Area Catholic Schools are dedicated to providing a Catholic education ensuring educational quality for all families willing to enter into a partnership to develop each child to his or her fullest spiritual and academic potential.

August 31, 2011

Please email information for system-wide distribution to Cathy Nelson at cnelson@gtacs.org.

In today's Mass with all GTACS personnel, Fr. Don Geyman, talked about Jesus' clarity of purpose in the Gospel ([Luke 4:38-44](#)) and our Schools' ability to focus on those things that matter most. Afterward, Superintendent Mike Buell updated the entire GTACS team on great strides being made in early elementary reading (the basis for so much learning!), math, science, and college-readiness -- plus opportunities for sacramental and devotional service. It was an inspirational and Spirit-filled morning.

IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION FOR SHUTTLE BUS RIDERS AND IC FAMILIES

Beginning Tuesday, the first day of school, Randolph Street (near the Dairy Lodge) will be closed. For the safety of our students, Principal Matt Bauman is requesting a [new traffic flow pattern](#) for drop-off and pick-up. This applies to both shuttle riders and other students. Please study the diagram and make sure that all those who are responsible for drop-off or pick-up are familiar with the new procedure.

SO CLOSE, WE CAN TASTE IT (THE FREE LUNCH, THAT IS)

Holly Schurg still needs a few parents (grandparents, etc.) for lunch duty during the first two weeks of school. If you can take a shift, please contact her at hschurg@gmail.com. Holy Angels lunch period is 10:30-12:30, Immaculate is 11:00-12:55 and SEAS is 11:15-12:30. Thank you!

ST. FRANCIS SCIENCE LABS EARN AN A-PLUS!

Renovation is nearly complete on the science labs at our High School. Not only are they beautiful, but they are equipped for more fast-paced and purposeful learning. Many thanks to all who contributed to this effort! Tours for science lab contributors are planned for September 14 and September 17. There is still time to join the list of financial investors for this important project. Please contact Wayne Mueller or Pam Klump to help raise the final \$6,800 in needed funds.

A BRIGHTER FUTURE

To minimize disruption during the school year, some of the lighting (e.g., high school hallways) was replaced over the summer. These areas are now brighter and more energy-efficient. You'll be hearing more about how you can get involved in the campaign to improve lighting conditions in the months to come.

PARENT'S GUIDE TO ACCELERATED READER PROGRAM

The ["parent's guide"](#) provides helpful information on our Schools' accelerated reading (AR) program (applicable at Holy Angels, Immaculate Conception and SEAS).

GUYS AND DOLLS AUDITIONS

High school students who wish to audition in the musical, Guys and Dolls, can pick up copies of the music outside the Kohler Auditorium. Auditions are September 19-20. (Auditions for 7th and 8th graders will be held in October.)

TRIP NEWS

- While supplies last, **Staples** cards will be loaded with a little extra money. \$25 cards will be valued at \$26.25, and \$100 cards will be worth \$105. Get 'em while you can!
- **GAP** has increased their discount to 13%! Remember, **GAP** cards are also good at Banana Republic, Old Navy, Piperlime and Athleta.
- Bonus (a temporary increase in the discount usually offered) - **Lands' End** - 2% until 9/8

TRIP FANS SPEAK OUT

In this area, we're featuring some comments by some successful TRIP participants: "The biggest blessing is the dollars earned that help with tuition. However, after participating for a few years I have realized it has become very helpful in budgeting and often times it has saved me from making a needless purchase. I will hesitate or think twice about making a purchase if I know I could use a TRIP gift card and don't have it with me." -- Debbie Ritchie

He does much in the sight of God who does his best, be it ever so little.
-- St. Peter of Alcantara