

Immaculate Conception Grade School Education Endowment Fund

February 2017

History

On May 24, 1988, the ICGS Parents' Club took a major step in planning for the future of Immaculate Conception Grade School. At their monthly meeting, Parents' Club President, Jean Bruno presented Principal Helen Kwasniewski with a \$10,000 check for the purpose of establishing an educational endowment fund for ICGS. The Parents' Club board realized in 1988 that since the number of religious men and women Catholic school teachers had drastically decreased, and 80% of Catholic school teachers were now lay men and women, the cost of educating children at ICGS had become much more expensive. The board wanted to put in place a future funding source that could provide a measure of financial stability for the school. In addition, the ICGS Education Endowment Fund would be a stabilization tool for preventing drastic increases in tuition during uncertain financial times, so that tuition would remain affordable for families of varied income levels. At its inception, the goal was to raise \$1,000,000, and this principal balance, once raised, would remain intact (or increase with additional contributions), earning interest. Each year afterward, the interest income from this fund would be available for the educational purposes of Immaculate Conception Grade School.

Current Status

As of December 31, 2010, the value of the ICGS Education Endowment Fund was \$258,099.76. More recently, on December 31, 2016, the balance of the endowment fund was **\$646,873.91**. Clearly, with yearly contributions by the ICGS Annual Appeal and the Parents' Club, the fund has grown considerably. At the same time our Annual Appeal kicked off last November, a parallel appeal was made to former ICGS families and alumni, requesting donations to the ICGS Education Endowment Fund. So far this year, as of February 10, 2017, we have received endowment fund contributions totaling \$19,065. We continue to receive endowment fund contributions from these loyal members of our ICGS family.

Moving Forward

Did you attend ICGS? Did your children or grandchildren attend ICGS? If so, you understand firsthand the value of an ICGS education and the foundation it has provided since it began in 1900. We are proud to report that (5) members of our ICGS Class of 2013 were named National Merit Commended Students. (24) members of the ICGS Class of 2013 (42%) were named Illinois State Scholars and 78% of our graduates who are currently in high school earned honor roll status. In addition, our alumni have a proven record of leadership and Christian service during their years in high school, college, and beyond. We believe these ICGS grads will ultimately make our world a better place.

If you would like to help us reach our endowment fund goal of \$1,000,000, please make your check to the "ICGS Annual Appeal," note, "Endowment Fund" in the memo section and drop it off at the rectory or mail it to ICGS at 132 Arthur St., Elmhurst, IL 60126. Or you can go to www.icelmhurst.org and "Donate Online." The ICGS Education Endowment Fund is listed as one of the donation choices.

Thank you for your consideration.

The ICGS School Board

Katy Ahern, President, Ray Hill, Vice President, Stacey Bogumil, Stephanie Van Eekeren, Tom Dewbray, Jim Papp, Erin Raniere