

Results of the Fall 2017 OLV School Survey

Thanks to all that provided feedback on our school via the survey we conducted last fall. This information is critical in helping us continue our legacy of providing excellent Catholic-based education as we have since our founding 175 years ago. We've done an initial review of the material and offer the following results and insights:

- A total of 180 responses were received:
 - o 88% were parishioners
 - o 84% were parents of current students
 - o 24% were parents of past students
 - o 9 % were parents of prospective students
- Reasons for selecting OLV school include:
 - o Strong Catholic education (65%)
 - o Academic reputation (50%)
 - o Parents are grads of OLV school (36%)
 - o Recommended by friends or family (34%)
 - o Specific programs offered (19%)
 - o Affordability (9%)
- 63% attended the Open House before deciding to enroll
 - o 59% indicated the Open House was important in making their decision
- 95% of respondents said they heard of OLV school because it is their Parish, in their neighborhood, or parents are grads of OLV
- Parents consider many other schools before choosing OLV, with the majority considering Oak Hills, St. Antoninus, St. Dominic, and Our Lady of the Visitation.
- When rating the importance of features of an OLV education, respondents indicated the following with the greatest number of "high" votes:
 - o Catholic environment
 - o Technology
 - o Art/Music/Gym
 - o Enrichment
 - o Kindergarten
 - o Junior High electives
 - o Fulltime nurse
 - o Math & reading specialists and psychologist
- 47% considered themselves well informed regarding the operation/activities of the school, with 48% moderately and 4% minimally informed
- The highest methods of receiving information are:
 - o Voice of Victory (97%)
 - o Email (78%)
 - o Other school families (69%)
 - o OLV website (64%)

- Church bulletin (64%)
- Facebook (52%)
- The areas suggested for improvement in communications include:
 - Website
 - Facebook/Social Media
 - Voice of Victory
 - Neeb Road Message Board
 - Newspaper
- Regarding tuition, 80% thought it about right, with 20% thinking it too high
- 72% think the fact that OLV graduates were valedictorians at their high schools last year would influence their decision to enroll a child at OLV school
- Regarding written comments, the main themes are:
 - Catholic identity is important
 - Discipline is important
 - Academic quality/rigor is important
 - Communication is important
 - Parents consider other schools when their children become school age

We will continue the analysis of the feedback in detail while reviewing our current operations and our planning for the future.

Initiatives that are currently under way that respond to some of the feedback include:

- Amending the discipline policy in the handbook to be clearer regarding the steps in the discipline program.
- Instituting a positive behavior recognition program to enhance the discipline policy.
- Scheduling a bullying seminar for students and parents in early 2018.
- Adjusting the Open House program to be more accommodating to prospective families/students.
- Formalizing the program to improve the appearance of the school environment, building on the extensive work done last summer.
- Creating a process with the local Catholic high schools to get yearly feedback on the preparedness of OLV graduates and to adjust curriculum as necessary (meetings already held with Seton and Elder).
- Increase the effectiveness of the preparation course for the High School Placement Test (HSPT).
- Begin the investigation into replacing the Neeb Road message board with an electronic model that can more effectively communicate the many messages we have regarding the Parish and School.

Again, thanks to those providing feedback and thanks to all in the Parish for your continued generous support of the school and our mission to provide quality Catholic –based education. **YOU MAKE A DIFFERENCE!**