



St. Peter's by-the-Sea Episcopal Day School

Kind Hearts, Smiling Faces, Helping Hands

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June 30, 2010

Re: Education Ministry

Dear Friends,

Our Vestry voted unanimously last night to seek new leadership for our education ministry. We thank Dr. Caruso for his service and wish him and his family well. We feel this is the right time for St. Peter's Day School to transition to new leadership and we have begun our search for an interim principal for September. In the interim, Dr. Sandra Loughran will continue to assist as our consultant and assume the duties of the principal. We will keep you informed as the search proceeds.

Education at St. Peter's by-the-Sea Episcopal Day School has been an integral part of our parish mission for 38 years. The church is strongly committed to the mission of the school, which is why we continue to devote our time and financial support to it, while only 4% of the enrollment is drawn from our congregation.

Recent events indicate that the school and the church together need to do a better job of explaining our mutual relationship, the governance model of the school as a ministry of the parish, and the basic economics of the school's operation.

We are also committed toward improved communication with the school staff and parents. You may be aware that an unfounded rumor had apparently been circulated that the faculty was to receive a pay cut. This prompted the meeting with Bishop Provenzano. He graciously offered to come to St. Peter's to help address this concern, which he did in a frank and candid meeting that assured the faculty that the rumor was baseless. The matter seems resolved.

In further support of our education ministry, Bishop Provenzano also made himself available later that evening to participate in a meeting with parents that was called to share the preliminary findings of Dr. Sandra Loughran's "best practices" study of school operations and elements of the 2010-11 budget. At that meeting Dr. Loughran did not have an opportunity to discuss the findings of the study which will be critical to shaping and strengthening the school's ministry and operations going forward.

To insure that parents have the opportunity to hear this presentation, we will be inviting them to a series of meetings, by class, in the near future. We will be in touch with you shortly about times and dates.

We have our work cut out for us. But it is the Lord's work. Our education operation needs a great deal more expert guidance, prayerful evaluation and open lines of communication. With God's help and yours, it will all come right.

We will keep you regularly informed of further developments. We welcome all questions, suggestions and observations.

We look forward to a new school year and the benefits to St. Peter's School that will come from the findings of this recent study, and we appreciate the opportunity to serve the community and serve as a place of education for your children.

Yours in Christ's love,

The Rector, Wardens and Vestry, St. Peter's Church