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MIS Endowment Breaks \$1,000,000!

Thank you, MIS parents — those that have been here one year, those that have been here 15 years, and those alumni parents as well! With everyone's support over the years, the future of MIS has been made ever more secure by reaching \$1,018,021 in our Endowment Fund this summer. Just two years ago, we had set the goal of reaching \$1,000,000 by 2015 through Vision, our Annual Giving Campaign... and the tradition of generosity at MIS has helped us reach our goal four years early!

Accomplishing this goal allows us to make changes on how our annual giving drive is executed. Beginning in October, the Vision Annual Giving campaign will become the Mary Immaculate School Annual Giving Campaign. Like in previous years, the campaign will cover two components: bridging the tuition gap and funding an endowment. However, the distribution to those two components will change...there will no longer be a 50/50 split.

With the new program, 10% of contributions will feed into the MIS Endowment Fund (not to exceed \$10,000); while 90% will be used to bridge the gap of what we charge in tuition and what it actually costs to educate your child as well as fund school enhancements. These discretionary funds will be directed by the School Advisory Council, Father Michael and Mr. Krause.

The MIS Annual Giving Campaign will help MIS families that have short term issues with paying tuition through budgeted tuition assistance relief, plus will help all MIS families by narrowing the gap between tuition rates and costs to educate. This year, the cost to educate your child is \$6,077 and the tuition gap is \$1,048 per student.

Your donation to the MIS Annual Giving Campaign will affect your children immediately. In the past, we have borrowed from the endowment to fund things such as the building of the gymnasium. This new program will allow extra funds to go towards school enhancements reducing our need to borrow for these items.

Barring any unforeseen catastrophic event, all extra funds raised through our MIS Annual Giving Campaign this year (above those designated for previously budgeted items) will go towards the building of a new Science Lab. See page 2 and http://www.mischool.org/files/MS_May_2011.pdf for more info on the Science Lab.

Last year, our school had a participation rate of 93% in our Annual Giving Campaign! Participation is key when applying for grants. Our hope is that we have the full 100% participation this year and exceed our budget expectations so that the reality of a Science Lab for our students comes as quickly as possible.



Current school families will have an option with the **MIS Annual Giving Campaign** to direct all monies to the Endowment if they wish more than the dedicated 10% to go there.



The kick-off of this year's campaign begins with a Mass at 5 p.m. on Saturday, October 15th. Please come celebrate this school led mass!

Science Lab

We are full steam ahead with our plans for remodeling the current Art Room into a dual purpose Science Lab and Art Room. In early September the Science Teachers, Principal and MIC Facilities Director met with the architectural firm, SHW Group. They are experienced in building schools, and they were the firm to remodel space at St. Monica School for what is now their Science Lab. This meeting was a fact finding mission for SHW Group, wanting to see what the needs of our school were in the areas of Science and Art, and how to make those two programs work cohesively in one space. The science teachers visited both Parish Episcopal School and St. Monica School to look at their labs and see the various layouts and uses of their labs. It was determined by SHW Group that we have plenty of space for our needs. SHW Group will have plans ready within the next 6 weeks. As soon as those are available, they will be displayed for everyone to see.

The science lab committee has researched over 30 foundations and found the following foundations viable for us to apply to:

- The Catholic Foundation*
- Motorola Company*
- Harold Simmons Foundation*
- Staubach Foundation*
- Mike and Mary Terry Foundation*
- Hillcrest Foundation*
- Texas Instruments Foundation*
- American Honda Foundation*
- The Duda Foundation*
- Various Haggar Family Foundations*
- The Scanlan Foundation*
- The John G. & Marie Stella Kenedy Memorial Foundation*

These foundations/companies have various grant application deadlines ranging from November 30th to April 15th. If you know of anyone involved with these foundations, please contact Holly Kerr, Director of Development at hkerr@mischool.org.

The overage from our budgeted profit from the Magazine Sales that will go to the Science Lab is currently just over \$4,250. All future Magazine sales profits until the end of the school year will go towards the Science Lab.

Thank you to Steve and Kelly Bartholomew. Kelly's family owns Paragon Industries, L.P., a kiln company, and they have graciously donated a kiln or the use in art and science.

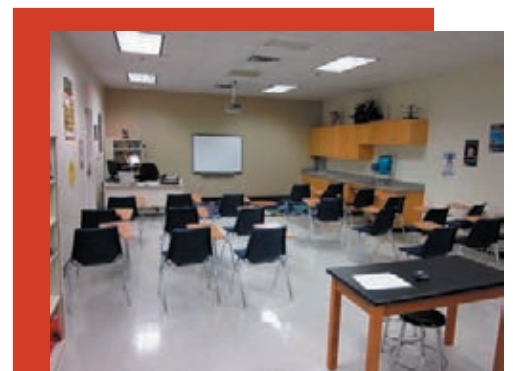
A special thank you to the volunteers that have helped with the Science Lab project thus far: Diane Kucera, Carol Coughran, Marie Coker, Carol Young and Sally Montgomery

Science Lab visit to St. Monica.



Clockwise from top right: Our new lab will include moveable ceiling mounted electrical outlets and moveable science lab tables. The lab will also have ample storage for new equipment such as microscopes and probes as well as plenty of counter space for equipment and experiments.

The Darling Foundation awarded us a grant for \$2,500 for our science lab.



Above: One option for room layout is a half classroom and half lab setting as shown here at Parish Episcopal School.

FINANCIAL DEVELOPMENT

86% of the families participated in Magazine Sales...thank you!

Magazine Sales are easy as Pie...

We reached our goal and together we made over \$30,000 for our school!

Total Sales: \$54,898.91
Overage: \$824.00 *(This is money from individual subscription buyouts minus any coupons used)*
Family Buyouts: \$8,970.00

MIS will receive 45% profit instead of the standard 40% for reaching \$50,000 in sales.

Total Income: \$36,255.48
Total Expenses: \$3,792.15

Total Profit: \$32,463.33

MIS will continue to receive subscriptions throughout the year and will continue to receive funds from this program. If you still want to purchase magazine subscriptions or buy them for Christmas gifts, we will get the profit on those as well.

As promised...
we did not extend the sale past Wed., Sept. 14th.

As promised...
we did not ask for postcards.

As promised...
we did have simplified prizes.

And, as promised...
we did reach our goal, so we will not add another fundraiser in the Spring!

Thank You!



MIS students enjoyed eating pie at lunchtime to celebrate our success. YUM! Thank you to all of the Magazine Moms that helped collect subscriptions on all of the turn in days and serve pie!

FINANCIAL DEVELOPMENT

A special thank you to Rita Ford, our Magazine Chair person. Rita put forth a lot of effort to listen to the parents in the fundraising survey and implement the changes that were requested by everyone while staying within a very short 3 week program.



6 classes had 100% participation and got to have a special celebration with their classes. The rewards were:

- KA, Mrs. Harrelson's Class-Movie and Popcorn
- KB, Mrs. Strong's Class-Movie and Popcorn
- 1A, Mrs. Beachner's Class-Movie, Popcorn and a Homework Pass
- 1B, Mrs. Wunderlick's Class- Movie, Popcorn and a Homework Pass
- 3B, Mrs. Blair's Class-Movie and Mrs. Blair's Special Homemade Treat
- 6B, Miss Vander-Heiden's Class-Movie and Refreshments

Continuing Education for our Teachers

In addition to time spent developing lesson plans and grading homework, MIS faculty members spend many hours outside of the classroom focusing on their own education. State requirements on continuing education require eight hours of training per teacher each year; however, many teachers go above and beyond those hours.

In addition to various private workshop courses, the teachers can choose to take courses through Region 10, which is one of the service centers established by the Texas State Legislature to provide services to the school districts within a defined geographic region. They can also gain their continuous education hours through Diocesan training courses, such as the six hours of Thinking Map training provided by the Diocese before school began.

Much of the training that our teachers have gone through this past year has focused on technology. Each month a trainer from the Dallas Diocese partners with our technology coordinator, Bill Newman, to provide on-campus software training courses that are tailored to meet our teachers' needs. Bill works in conjunction with our technology vendors to provide training as well. Recent technology training topics have included Grade-Quick, Mimio and various MSOffice products.

Some funding for teacher trainings comes from the school budget, but the majority of the training expenses come from government funding. Last year MIS received approximately \$8000 in Title II grants, which enabled many hours of training through Region 10 and through private vendors. These grants are gained through the return of government surveys that our school parents complete at the beginning of each school year.



Carol Mayo, a professional development coordinator from the Dallas Diocese, partners with Bill Newman to train the teachers on computer software.

FINANCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Top Sellers in each grade:

Kindergarten - Ethan Talatala
1st - Alan Gasc
2nd - Thomas Gasper
3rd - Nick Lazzara
4th - Isabella Aguilar
5th - Max Ford
6th - Tyler Nguyen
7th - Hallie Tomlinson
8th - Jordan Tibbits

Each of these winners got to throw a pie at Mr. Krause!



Manna Program Update:

We received our first Manna Program monies last month. Target sent us a check in the amount of \$474.24! That money comes from families who have a Target credit card (REDcard) and designated MIS as their school of choice. Target donates up to 1% of your purchases to our school if you use their card. If you have a Target REDcard and have not designated MIS as your school, please go on-line to link your card with our school. Go to target.com/tcoe. Our school ID for Target is #16208.

Tom Thumb and Albertson's shoppers, please keep scanning your grocery store cards and I will update our earnings when we receive our checks!

If you have any "Community Bucks" from Tom Thumb that you received in the month of September and would like for our school to benefit from the program, please kid-mail your bucks to me, Katie Gasper c/o Joseph in KC, by October 10th.

For any questions about our Manna Program and how it works, please send me an email and I'll be happy to fill you in!

Katie Gasper
gasperhome@gmail.com

Annual Giving Campaign Campaign Dads

KA-Matthew Brandt

KB- Michael Ginsburg

KC Girls-Tim Norman

KC Boys-Randy McKemie

1A-Steve Pfaffenberger

1B-Blake Eberhart

1C-Jason Salzman

2A-Mike Tullis

2B-Jay Lambert

2C-Pete McMahon

3A Boys-Patrick Ryan

3B Boys-Steve Hunt

3C Boys-Marcus Scudder

3rd Grade Girls-David Megarity

4th Grade Boys-Mike Skaggs

4th Grade Girls-Brent Bookout and Bill Koch

5th Grade Boys-Pat Gasper

5th Grade Girls-Kevin Kohler and Tim Taylor

6A Boys-Jim Bitterman

6B Boys-Kyle Kucera

6A Girls-Morey Thompson

6B Girls-Randy Stokx

7th Grade Boys-Marcel Brunel

7th Grade Girls-Rudy Tovar

8th Grade Boys-Mondo Salinas

8th Grade Girls-Greg Buchanan

Hispanic Community Assistance-Frank Casero

Tuition Assistance at MIS

Many families make great sacrifices to send their children to MIS. For some families, the financial stretch can turn extremely stressful when family situations are disrupted by job loss, death, major illness or disability. Short term tuition assistance can provide support to our school families when financial resources are unexpectedly interrupted, enabling their students to retain the familiarity and stability of our school.

Due to the current difficult economic times, MIS is continually looking for ways to increase our tuition assistance capabilities. Our school budgets \$10,000 for tuition assistance each year, and it is not unusual for that amount to be depleted within the first three months of school. Scrip generates funds for tuition assistance as well. Last year, approximately \$3600 was designated for tuition assistance through sales of Scrip.

MIS actively seeks donations from outside entities in support of our tuition assistance program. Our efforts last year generated \$19,630 from outside donors for the 2010-11 school year. For this school year, we have so far solicited \$3000 from a local bank and another \$2500 from a foundation that supports Catholic education. (See sidebars.)

Mary Immaculate Catholic Church takes an active role in supporting tuition assistance for MIS as well. Approximately \$22,000 in funds earmarked for Catholic education recently switched from supporting the start-up of John Paul II High School to tuition assistance for the children of teachers and staff. This year, our Church also began sending a monthly offertory envelope for tuition assistance to all registered parishioners. So far, this has generated \$2,000 for tuition assistance.

For our families facing short term hardships, our tuition assistance program can be a true blessing, offering peace of mind that students will not feel the impact of financial strain when it comes to their education.

Town North Bank recently donated \$3,000 for tuition assistance.

The Darling Foundation made a \$2,500 grant to MIS for tuition assistance.

Castle Hills makes a grant to us each year for use in the Library. The amount of the grant is based upon the number of students we have here at MIS that live in Castle Hills. This year we received a grant for \$1582.00.

St. Ann Catholic Parish has also come forward to support tuition assistance. This year, they allocated \$10,000 towards tuition assistance for St. Ann parishioner families who chose to send their children to MIS.



Father Henry celebrates a Friday mass with the MIS students.

SPIRIT STORE & MORE

The Spirit Store has made an amazing transformation this year. The walls were painted (Thank you to Tim Huff & Eric Smith!) the room was redesigned (Thank you to Sarah Matz!), and now there are some great new products. Thank you to all the volunteers who helped put the Spirit Store back together for the Back-to-School Prep Day along with folding hundreds of shirts and sweatshirts!

Does a desk make a difference?

Desks are the primary piece of furniture in any school. Now the Spirit Store has a fine desk! The new Spirit Store desk was custom designed and built by **Art Valdez and 34 Oaks Fine Cabinetry (www.34OaksFineCabinetry)**. The Valdez family generously donated the amazing counter-high desk and the wall of adjustable shelves to make a fine addition to our Spirit Store. So, yes, this desk does make a difference! Not only is it nice to look at, it is a very functional piece of furniture. This desk will be used to fill Scrip orders, do Scrip and Spirit Store paperwork and it will even to be used as a place to fold the MIS sweatshirts and t-shirts. Thank you Valdez family for your fine work and donation!

Fine Art in the Spirit Store

You don't need to go to a museum to see fine art anymore... we have 2 beautiful pieces coming to the Spirit Store! An etched glass mustang will go on the front of our new desk and a glass top etched with a mustang will go on top of the desk with the words 'Spirit Store.' These were generously donated by **Kim & Mike Pfaffenberger and M3 Glass Technologies (www.m3glass.com)**. These pieces of fine art make our Spirit Store one classy place! Thank you Mike Pfaffenberger family for your inspiration and generosity!



SCRIP/Spirit Store Coordinator Sharon Campbell and SCRIP volunteer Lara Haynes



MIS mom Kristin Ryan shops in the newly designed store.

Come by the spirit store and see what we have "In store" for you!



VOLUNTEER RELATIONS

The MID's are as busy as ever this year trying to fulfill their mission as dads that come together to spend quality time with their kids, bond together as friends, and support the school.

Their events are planned to allow the kids and dads to have fun together and get to know one another in a social atmosphere...and at the same time, performing worthwhile causes. The MID events are some of the most well attended events at our school because it is truly about spending quality time with your children, so take note of the calendar of events and don't be the one to miss out on some great fun with family and friends.

Speaking of working for a good cause... The MID's purchased a new scorer's table to be used during volleyball and basketball season. It is absolutely beautiful and gives our gym the final touch it needed!

Thank you MID's!



The scorer's table, presented by the MID's.



Above left: The scorer's table. Above right: (From left to right) Kevin Jones-MID BBQ Chairperson, Frank Casero-MID Vice President, Bob Dalton-MID President, Andrew Gorman-MID BBQ Dinner Chairperson, Kevin Kohler (not pictured)-MID Past President and Obstacle Course Chairperson

MID Calendar for the 2011-2012 School Year:

8/25/11
MID Round Up

9/16/11
MID Obstacle Course K-4th

11/18/11
MID 4 on 4 Basketball Tournament 5th-8th

1/27/12
MID Volleyball Tournament 5th-8th

3/25/12
MID Golf Tournament

4/13/12
MID BBQ Dinners 2:30-6:30



Left: Bob Dalton signs up new MID members



Below: MID's Round Up

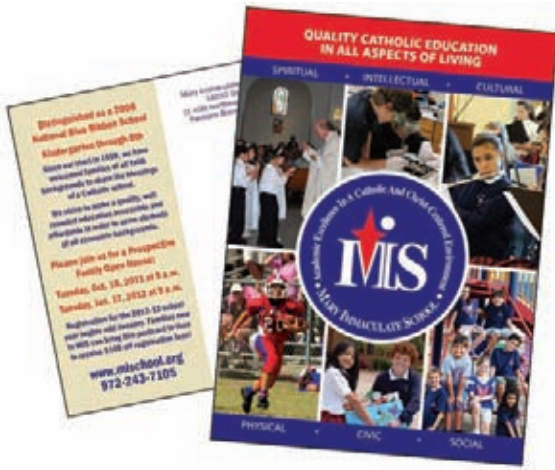


Marketing Update

Marketing efforts put forth in the last school year paid off well as this school year began with an enrollment of 513 students, a 6% increase from last year. Despite the continued adverse economic situation in the U.S., private schools in the North Dallas area continue to hold steady on enrollment; however, most are still showing lower enrollment than hoped for in the younger grades.

This year, marketing efforts are structured around the strategic marketing plan that was developed and approved by the Advisory Board, Mr. Krause and Fr. Michael in early June. Marketing activities that will take place this year will focus on increasing awareness of our school with young families in the area, increasing communications between MIS and local parishes, and building awareness of our affordability in comparison to other private schools.

In addition to individual tours of our campus, MIS will host two Prospective Family Open Houses: one on Tuesday, October 18, 2011 and another on Tuesday, January 17, 2012. Both events will begin at 9am in the Parish Hall on their respective days. MIS parents are encouraged to invite their friends to these events!



This direct mail postcard will go out to approximately 5000 households in the area on October 8th.

MIS Media Coverage: August to October

The beginning of the school year provides ample opportunity to promote our school via photos, and many were submitted to local newspapers, including the Dallas Morning News, Texas Catholic and the Star Publication newspapers. A couple of opportunities for story submissions have presented themselves as classes began in earnest, including one describing the fourth grade's interesting grammar lessons and another on our awesome Speech Team. These two stories are currently awaiting acceptance into the Dallas Morning News NeighborsGo editions.

Dallas Morning News reporter Marc Ramirez is continuing his coverage of MIS third grader Zach Thibodeaux, with the permission of Zach's parents and the assistance of MIS faculty/staff. His 5th article in the series that follows Zach as he overcomes the challenges of blindness was published in late August. The series has generated much assistance for Zach and for local services for the visually impaired, plus has earned Marc award recognition by Dallas Services for his unbiased special-needs education articles.



CONGRATULATIONS, MIS FAMILIES!

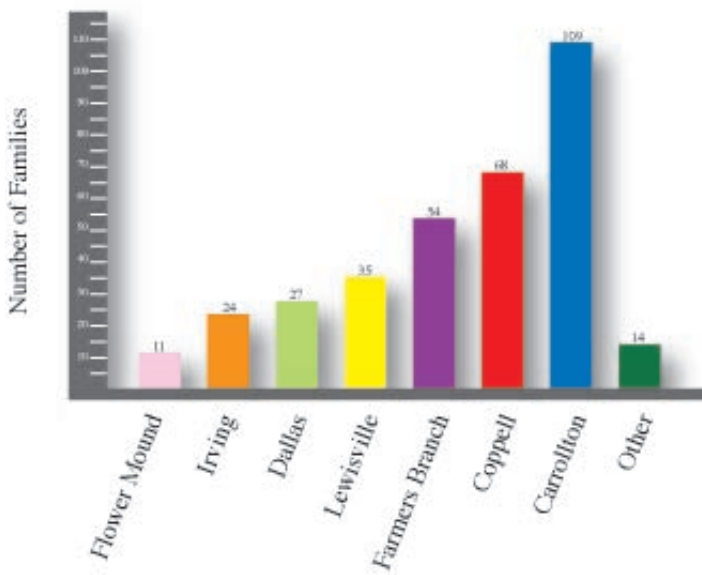
Mary Immaculate Catholic School was voted the Best Private School in Carrollton/FB by the Carrollton Leader Newspaper's readers! Click here to see a copy of the certificate!



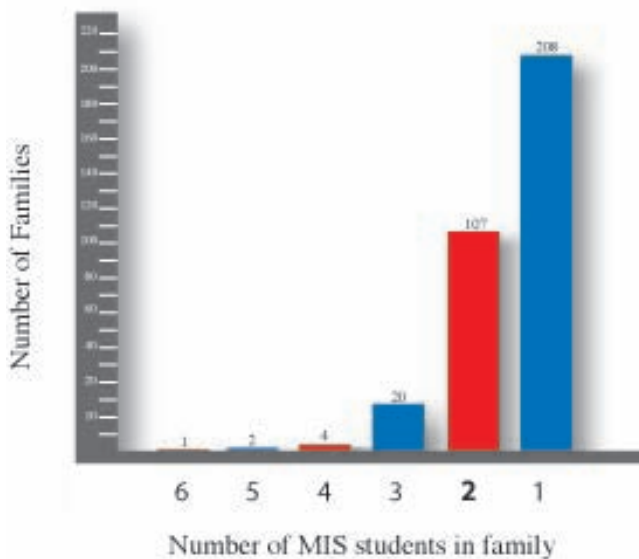
MIS 2011-12 Demographics

The government surveys that were submitted by our school families during the first month of school not only enable us to procure government funding; they also provide statistics that are useful in marketing our school to prospective families.

Cities in which MIS families live

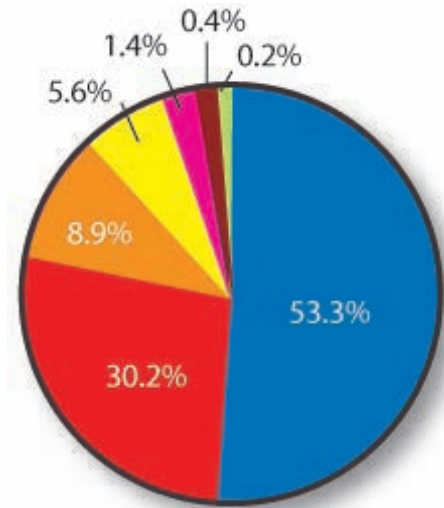
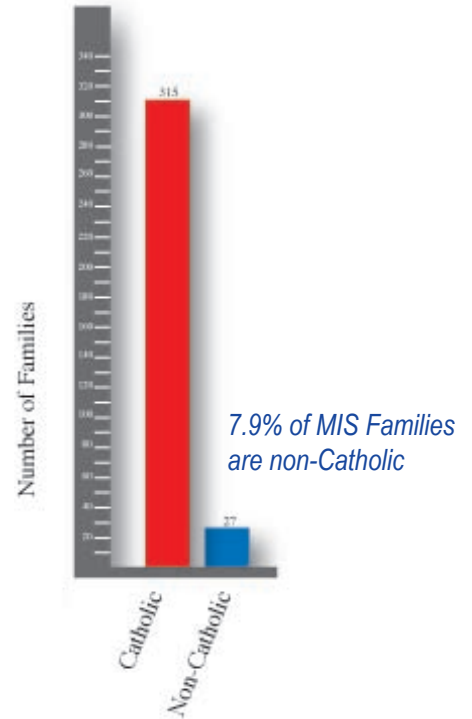


Number of Students per family attending MIS



27 (7.9%) MIS Families have 3 or more students

Religion



Ethnic Group - Number of Students

- Caucasian, non Hispanic- 274 students
- Caucasian and Hispanic- 155 students
- Asian or Asian Indian- 46 students
- Two or More (Bi-Racial)- 29 students
- African American- 7 students
- American Indian- 2 students
- Other- 1 student
- American Hawaiian or Pacific Islands- 0