

CONTINUING THE DREAM CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

The Continuing the Dream campaign has begun! Again, we are going to raise funds to build a regional Catholic school and religious education center on our All Saints campus. This is an exciting time for our Catholic community that will leave a positive impact for generations to come.

The launch of this effort also brings to light some common questions. Here are a few worth addressing:

Why can't we just renovate the existing school?

For over two years Building Committee members have discussed the best way for the school to proceed. The estimated costs for the renovations needed in the immediate future prevented this from being a viable option. Rather, a better use of our resources would be to invest in the long-term solution of a new building on the All Saints campus.

Has enrollment been a concern recently? What are our expectations for future enrollment?

For the past three years All Saints School has had an increase in enrollment. This year alone we have had over 20 new students throughout all grade levels. For the future we will be expanding our marketing to Green Lake, Ripon and Princeton, which will help us to continue increasing enrollment.

If enrollment is an issue, would we consider only offering 3K-5 grades?

Middle School is an important ministry of our faith. We need to continue to Catechize our students in our faith, to give them a strong faith base as they transition to high school. The opportunity for our families in the Berlin area and surrounding communities to continue in their Catholic education should not be eliminated. Recent public-school curriculum changes further demonstrate our need as Catholics to teach our students the truths of the faith during their most impressionable years. For these and many other reasons we will continue to provide a Catholic education for our middle school students.

How would students from Berlin get to the new location? What about students from surrounding communities?

Bussing to school would be provided as usual. Students in the Berlin Area School District would have the opportunity to be bussed to the new school on the hill. Students who live in town could take the shuttles from around the city and be combined on a bus that would take them to the new school. Students in Ripon and Green Lake would have opportunities to be bussed from their communities. A map will soon be provided with additional details related to bussing.

Will we need to increase the cost of tuition because of this new construction?

To ensure we recruit and retain an excellent school staff, tuition will be increased at its normal progression. However, any changes to the cost of tuition will not be a result of the new construction.

How confident are we that this will be successful long-term? How will a new school attract families going forward?

Parish and school leadership feel extremely confident that this is the exact next step needed for our school, parish, and surrounding communities. Enrollment trends are demonstrating that our new school can be a long-term viable school.

Will monthly operating costs increase for a new school?

The ongoing operating costs for the new building are expected to be similar to the operating costs of the existing school. While we will be heating and cooling a larger building, the improved efficiencies realized in a newly constructed building will offset those costs.