

# I-TEAM INSIGHTS

Vol 1, No 2

A Newsletter for the Partnering Schools of

February 17, 2012

*Immaculate Conception (Jenkintown) and Saint Luke the Evangelist (Glenside)*

## CALENDAR

- Feb 10-17 On-line name survey - Phase II
- Feb 20 I-Team Meeting at ICS
- Feb 21 County-wide meeting at Archbishop Carroll High School - *CANCELLED*
- Feb 21-27 On-line name survey - Phase III
- Mar 13 County-wide meeting at Archbishop Carroll High School (*I-Team reps attend*)
- Mar 25 **Open House** for new Regional School on Saint Luke campus / **School Registration begins for CURRENT SLS AND ICS FAMILIES**
- April **Open House and School Registration for NEW families**
- Sept **Regional School Opens**

## “I-TEAM” (Implementation Team)

Msgr. David Diamond (ICS) *Pastor*  
Father Joseph Brandt (SLS) *Parochial Administrator*  
Dr. Diane Greco (ICS) *Principal*  
Sister William Adele, SSJ (SLS) *Principal*  
David Bauer (ICS) *Business Manager*  
Deacon Tom Croke (SLS) *Business Manager*  
Jim Donahue (SLS)  
Mimi Furletti (ICS)  
Bob Loughney (ICS)  
Genevieve Lynch (SLS)  
Stanley (Stas) Majkut (ICS)  
Beth Stieritz (SLS)  
Sr. Patricia Healey, IHM *Facilitator*

## Important Websites

[www.faithinthefuture.com](http://www.faithinthefuture.com)

(Archdiocesan website for Regionalization information)

[www.icsjenkintown.org](http://www.icsjenkintown.org)

(Immaculate Conception School website)

[www.saintlukeschool.org](http://www.saintlukeschool.org)

(Saint Luke School website)



## From the Meeting Table

### ... Thoughts from the I-Team

Dear Parents, Parishioners, Alumni, and Friends,



Six weeks ago, the announcement made by the “Blue Ribbon Commission” concerning school closings and regionalizations stunned many in the Archdiocese. Since that announcement, both Saint Luke School and Immaculate Conception School have worked quickly to begin to ready ourselves for the many changes that are going to take place on a very tight timeline.

Our “Implementation Team” (**I-TEAM**), appointed by the pastors and principals of both schools to lead the communities through the process of Regionalization, is in place, and has been meeting regularly to move this process forward. The list of tasks assigned to the I-Team is daunting and continues to grow, but can be accomplished with help from our school and parish communities. The I-Team has formed sub-committees to carry out much of the work that needs to be done, and will be extending an invitation to our school parents very soon to consider joining us on these sub-committees. Already, a subgroup of the I-Team has gleaned insight into the level of interest of our **current** school families in enrolling in the new school through the “Interest Survey”. In addition, another subgroup has guided the school naming process through the creation of our current name surveys. Finally, a third subgroup has done an in-depth look at our overall school and parish finances, and has begun the difficult task of recommending tuition levels for our new school.

As promised, after each I-Team meeting, information and decisions will be communicated to both school communities simultaneously through this “**I-Team Insights**” newsletter. We hope that this report will be an effective tool in communicating our progress to you as we continue to move forward in the Regionalization process. Questions, comments and feedback on items included in **I-Team Insights** may be directed by e-mail to [Iteamfeedback@hotmail.com](mailto:Iteamfeedback@hotmail.com).

The “I-Team”

## Why us?

As we reflect on the events of the past six weeks, many parishioners and school families have asked the question “why us?” Why are WE involved in a Regionalization? The answers to this question are complex, but among the major factors is **finances**. As the I-Team is charged with proposing tuition for the new school, we are closely studying the historical financial information for each school, gathered from the Faith in the Future website, and from information presented to the parishioners at respective parish-wide meetings. As we move through this process in determining tuition, we believe that it is important for parishioners and school families to understand the current financial state of each school and parish. Information is provided below.

	2007/08		2008/09		2009/10		2010/11	
	ICS	SLS	ICS	SLS	ICS	SLS	ICS	SLS
<b>Subsidy* from Parish</b>	\$335,659	\$533,186	\$317,420	\$565,208	\$419,651	\$628,441	\$402,128	\$709,811
<b>Subsidy Percentage</b>	36%	44%	35%	45%	43%	47%	39%	49%
<b>Total Enrollment</b>	193	332	182	333	208	338	208	340
<b>Capacity Percentage ** of School</b>	74%	68%	70%	69%	80%	70%	80%	69%

**\* What is a subsidy?**

The subsidy represents that portion of a school's operating expenses that is not met by tuition income, fees, fundraising, and other sources of school-generated revenue. In the Archdiocesan elementary school model, the subsidy is paid by the parish. A subsidy occurs when income of the school does not cover the expenses of the school, and the shortfall is made up by the parish. The chart above demonstrates that in the 2010/2011 school year, Immaculate Conception BVM paid \$402,128 of the operating expenses of its school. St. Luke the Evangelist paid \$709,811 of the operating expenses of its school. These amounts represent that 39% of the school's expenses are being paid by the Immaculate Conception BVM parishioners, and 49% of the school's expenses are being paid by St. Luke the Evangelist parishioners. These amounts have put the respective parishes' finances in extreme difficulty.

**\*\*Capacity Percentage equals Current Enrollment / Total school capacity**

### “The Appeal”

Immaculate Conception School requested that their information be reviewed by the Blue Ribbon Commission and that process began on Thursday, January 26th. In the past five weeks since the Blue Ribbon Commission announcements, there has been a review of all appeals filed by parish elementary and Archdiocesan secondary schools. **Immaculate Conception’s appeal did not prevail and the merger with St. Luke School will go forward as originally stated in the archdiocesan plan for reorganizing the schools.** Students will be informed Friday, February 17 after 11am when the official press release goes out and results of the appeals are posted on [www.faithinthefuture.com](http://www.faithinthefuture.com)



### Principal and Faculty Selection

Next week, the process for selecting the principal for our new Regional School will begin. The pastors have received resumes and will conduct interviews as soon as possible.

Following the hiring of the principal, the selection of faculty and staff will begin. Joint interviews will take place with the new principal and the pastors. New faculty members for the school will then be announced. Information will be forthcoming as to the date of these announcements as soon as it becomes available.



### *New School Name*

Our On-line survey (*Phase II of our naming process*) is in progress, and will wrap up on Friday, February 17. Parishioners and school families are invited to indicate their preference for one of the top ten names proposed

- Ave Maria
- St. Joseph The Protector
- The Magnificat School
- St. Brendan The Navigator
- Blessed Trinity
- St. Elizabeth Ann Seton
- Padre Pio
- St. Thomas More
- Immaculate Conception/ St. Luke
- Glenside Catholic Regional School

Beginning Tuesday, February 21, Phase III of the “naming” process will begin, as school and parish families will be invited to participate in another on-line survey. Three name “finalists” surfaced from the Phase II survey will be presented, and interested parties may indicate their top preference. ***SURVEY LOG-ON INSTRUCTIONS WILL BE E-MAILED TO SCHOOL FAMILIES BY FEBRUARY 21, AND WILL BE PUBLISHED IN CHURCH BULLETINS AND POSTED ON SLS AND ICS WEBSITES THE WEEKEND OF FEBRUARY 25.***

### **“Interest Survey” Results**

As part of the guidance offered to Implementation Teams across the Archdiocese by the Office of Catholic Education, a “Letter of Interest” has been suggested. Current school families in both schools would be asked to consider and sign such a letter, indicating their “interest” in enrolling their children in the new Regional School for the 2012-2013 school year. Results of this letter would assist Implementation Teams in the critical process of planning for the 2012-2013 school year in terms of faculty, staffing, and class sizes.

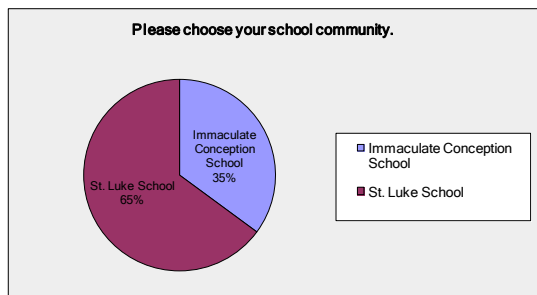
Instead of a “Letter of Interest”, our I-Team created an on-line survey for current Saint Luke and Immaculate Conception families, which asked pertinent questions relating to families’ interest in enrolling under given conditions and scenarios. This “Interest Survey” was available on-line February 6 through February 10, and all families were invited to respond. The results of this survey gives the I-Team a starting point for estimating enrollment. The numbers will become clearer on and after **March 25th, when RE-REGISTRATION BEGINS FOR ALL CURRENT SLS AND ICS FAMILIES.**

***SEE PAGE 4 for all INTEREST SURVEY Results***

## Interest Survey Results

*Question 1 - What is your School Community?*

Saint Luke School	192
Immaculate Conception	104
<b>Total responses</b>	<b>296</b>



*Question 5 - If you are not sure of your decision at this time, please choose your top 3 priorities in your decision making process. Of the 140 "not sure" responses from Question 3, top priorities (reported in # of responses) from the survey were:*

	Priority Ranking			
	#1	#2	#3	Total
Class Size	39	39	21	99
Tuition	53	21	17	91
Faculty	17	28	26	71
Leadership	20	16	17	53
Staff	0	6	15	21
Transportation	6	5	3	14

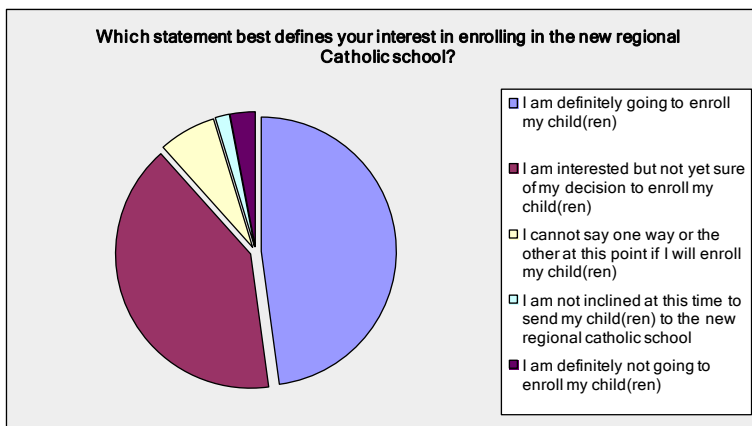
*Question 7 - What grades will your child(ren) be entering in September 2012? Please click all that apply. (note - this data reflects all that are "definitely" attending and those that are "not sure" of attending)*

Grade	Response Count (# students)
K	43
1	59
2	58
3	67
4	58
5	58
6	62
7	45
8	68
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>518</b>

*Question 3 - Which statement best defines your interest in enrolling in the new regional Catholic school?*

	%	# of responses
I am definitely going to enroll my child(ren)	49.0%	145
I am interested but not yet sure of my decision to enroll my child(ren)	41.6%	123
I cannot say one way or the other at this point if I will enroll my child(ren)	5.7%	17
I am not inclined at this time to send my child(ren) to the new regional catholic school	1.4%	4
I am definitely not going to enroll my child(ren)	2.4%	7

**TOTAL RESPONSE** **296**



*Question 6 - How many children would you be sending to the new regional Catholic school?*

*(note - data below is reported in number of STUDENTS— for example, survey results indicate that 75 students currently enrolled in ICS will "definitely" attend the new school, and 190 students currently enrolled at SLS will "definitely" attend the new school.*

	Definitely	Not Sure	Total students
<b>ICS</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>165</b>
<b>SLS</b>	<b>190</b>	<b>159</b>	<b>349</b>
<b>Total Students</b>	<b>265</b>	<b>249</b>	<b>514</b>
Total survey responses			282
Total # of students "Definitely" attending			265
Total # of students "Not Sure" if attending			249