

## Orientation Events.

Saint Albert is hosting events for current and prospective families whose children have reached various "milestones" in their academic careers. At each event, information will be provided on our curriculum, guests will tour our facilities, visit with faculty and meet other parents and students. Please join us!

- **PreK and Kindergarten Roundup** – Tuesday, March 2 at 6:30 p.m. in the Elementary Gym (we offer PreK programs for 3 and 4-year-old children)
- **High School Orientation** – Thursday, March 4 at 6 p.m. in the Auditorium
- **7th Grade Orientation** – Tuesday, March 9 at 6 p.m. in the Auditorium

*If you know of families with children in these age groups, encourage them to attend. You'll receive a tuition credit if the new family lists your name as a referral on their enrollment agreement (excluding PreK).*

## SA Ambassadors Meeting on Mar. 8

The SA Ambassadors will meet on Monday, March 8, at 1 p.m. in the Elementary Art Room. The guest speaker will be Ken Schreiber, assistant principal and activities director at Saint Albert. Stop by for fun and fellowship with the SA Ambassadors.



Bishop Pates presented Mrs. Johnson with her award plaque at the mass.

## Rouse Outlines State of School

At an annual State of the School meeting on Feb. 22, Saint Albert President James Rouse highlighted a vision for the school that is multifaceted, and is aimed at making the excellent school even better.

Some of the aspects of the long-range plan include improving student performance, keeping a handle on tuition charges, working diligently to increase enrollment at all levels of the school, focusing efforts to grow the endowment and fund-raising, and increasing outreach to graduates.

Rouse also provided a financial snapshot of the school that illustrated its three sources of income: fund-raising (30 percent of revenue); parish support (26 percent of revenue); and tuition (44 percent of revenue).

Rouse said the preliminary budget does include a modest tuition increase for 2010-2011 – an overall average of three percent. The increase ranges from \$9 per month (based on 10 months) at the elementary levels to \$15 per month at the 12<sup>th</sup> grade level. In order to keep tuition affordable with the increase, Rouse encouraged families to become involved in the programs that increase non-tuition revenue sources such as the school's Scrip program, new family referral bonus, and support from the Catholic Tuition Organization.

Rouse added that work is still underway to complete the fund-raising for the elementary school addition on the school's Gleason Avenue campus. Nearly \$1.75 million has been raised in the completion phase, bringing the school to approximately 80 percent of the \$8.5 million construction total.

"It would be unrealistic to think that the state of the economy has not impacted Saint Albert Catholic Schools in the same way that has affected many other schools, parishes, businesses and government agencies," Rouse said. "We will review every facet of our operation, including timely collection of revenues, increased fund-raising and adjustments to staffing expenses in order to balance the budget."

Rouse noted that while the school's administration will continue to be challenged to streamline processes and operate more efficiently, the same great academic tradition – integrated with religious and family values – will continue to be available to families at Saint Albert.

"The excitement of our new campus, technology and programs is shared by our students, parents and staff alike. We will respond as a community to protecting and passing this unique educational opportunity on to future generations," he said.

## Jackie Johnson Inducted into Hall of Recognition

At the Catholic Schools Week mass last month, the Saint Albert Educational Foundation inducted Jacqueline E. Johnson into the school's Hall of Recognition. The honor is given each year to recognize those individuals whose contributions allow Saint Albert to provide quality, faith-based education for students in southwest Iowa.

Mrs. Johnson was an obvious choice this year. The Council Bluffs resident became the largest private donor in Saint Albert's history when she donated \$2 million in 2008 to build the Sheryl K. Johnson Child Care Center in her daughter's honor.

In 2009, Mrs. Johnson made a second contribution to fully furnish the Child Care Center with the highest quality items – ranging from furniture, appliances and window coverings to toys and playground equipment. In addition, the donation allowed the school to equip all of the elementary classrooms with wireless laptop labs, "Smart Boards" interactive learning systems, ELMO digital visual presenter systems and laptop computers for each teacher.

As a former teacher, Mrs. Johnson was inspired to make the donation in order to "make learning fun and exciting." She intends for her gift to give families greater access to quality child care and educational programs for generations to come.

## 300 Club — Our Numbers are Climbing!

Nearly 100 people have joined the 300 Club so far!

Couple those memberships with other recent pledges, and we are half way to meeting our \$3.5 million goal for the completion phase of the building campaign.

Here's how the 300 Club works: **if 300 families pledge \$100 per month for three years, we will raise \$1,080,000!** One-time donations of \$3,600 also will be accepted for membership. (Of course, larger pledges/donations will always be accepted, if your budget allows!)

In exchange for your pledge/donation, your name will be added to the club membership wall in the new building. You also will receive a gold medallion and membership certificate.

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes, I would like to be a member of the 300 Club.

I would like to pledge \$\_\_\_\_\_ per month for three years for a total pledge of \$\_\_\_\_\_.

I would like to make a one-time donation of \$\_\_\_\_\_.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Method of Payment: Check \_\_\_\_\_ Cash \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card (VISA/MC) \_\_\_\_\_

My company, \_\_\_\_\_ will match my gift.

Please list my name as follows:  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Saint Albert is now on

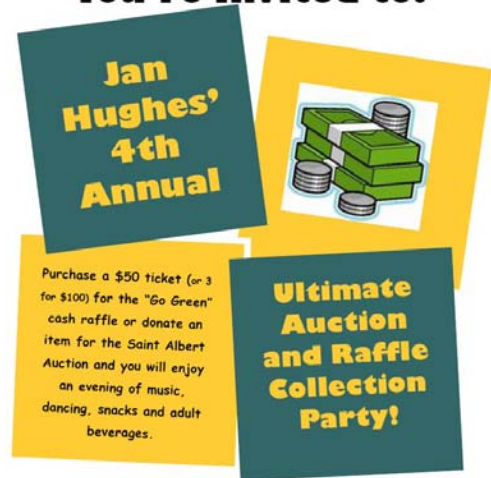
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- Type "StAlbertSchools"
- Click on the first button on the right to follow us!



By following Saint Albert on Twitter, you will receive daily updates, called tweets, about our student activities, extracurricular and sporting events, and SA news. Start following St. Albert today!

### You're Invited to:



Date: Saturday, March 13

Place: Mid-America Center

Time: 8 p.m. -Midnight

Please join us!

**Tickets for the 2010 Auction go on sale April 5!  
Get your friends together and purchase a table!**

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Saint Albert Catholic Schools  
400 Gleason Avenue  
Council Bluffs, IA 51503



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