

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As indicated in the letter from the Board of Pastors, in order to provide fiscal responsibility, as well as keeping tuition and fees at reasonable levels, while still maintaining the excellence in educational programs which have become synonymous with Transfiguration Academy, we will be opening next year at the Bergenfield Campus. The cost of maintaining two locations, and maintaining redundant or shared staffing proved to be too cumbersome and less efficient than we would like, or which you, our parents and guardians deserve. Concentrating our efforts in one location will give us the economies of scale necessary to continue the excellent progress we have made as a premier educational institution, within the Archdiocese of Newark.

The Bergenfield campus has excess capacity and is centrally located in the communities we serve. During the past few years, steady progress has been made to enhance this campus. Interactive White Boards, dry erase boards, new computer furniture, and the creation of a language laboratory are among the improvements recently made. Plans for continued improvement of this location have been developed. This campus also has the space necessary to create an improved science lab and an **ENTECH** lab to accommodate a newly developed Engineering and Technology Program we are introducing in the fall. These programs have been developed to enhance the already award winning curriculum the Academy offers.

We are justifiably proud of past accomplishments, such as winning the Bergen Catholic High School academic challenge, six awards in four years at the "Future City" engineering competition, the highest 7th grade writing assessment scores in the Archdiocese, last school year, and over one million five hundred thousand dollars (\$1,500,000) in high school scholarships over the last four years. We now look to building on these accomplishments.

An article in "Working Mother" Magazine entitled, "**What makes a Great School?**" states that there are 5 things you want to know about a school....

1) Do the principal and the district have a plan to improve academics and challenge students? *As noted above, since the merger Transfiguration Academy has focused on building upon and improving the academics offered. This consolidation allows us to place our resources where they are most needed to further improve our academic standing.*

2) Do teachers and students work together on projects and are flexible in their teaching methods? *We pride ourselves on differentiated instruction, so that each student achieves his or her best. We truly believe in our mission: Strengthening faith, Enlightening minds, Transforming heartsone student at a time.*

3) How are special needs meet? *The faculty works closely with outside Learning Consultants and our school Social Worker to identify special needs and to ensure that all Individual Service Plans are implemented and followed. Students are offered tutoring by our teachers who volunteer their free time.*

4) How Diverse is the School? *We take pride in the diversity of our student body and faculty. Our students learn and are strengthened through this diversity and recognize that we all belong to the Family of Mankind and the Spiritual Body of Christ!*

5) Is their an active parent organization? *Our Home School Association is in the forefront of fundraising and instrumental in providing programs for our children.*

As you can tell from the above, Transfiguration Academy is a Great School, and will continue to be such. We, the administration, faculty and staff pledge to continue to use our God-given talents toward enhancing our school and maintaining our leadership in Catholic Education.

Trusting in God, we rely on your continued support and prayers.

Respectfully,
Sal Tralongo
Principal