



3155 Paulskirk Drive • Ellicott City, Maryland 21042
410-461-9111 • Fax: 410-461-8621 • www.resstpaul.org

March 4, 2010

Dear Parents,

Today we learned that 13 Catholic schools in the Archdiocese will be consolidated at the end of the current school year and will not reopen in September. This is very difficult news for all of us who work and teach in Catholic schools. As a result of many factors, including the challenging economic times, Catholic schools here and around the country are facing declining enrollment, a changing workforce, aging facilities, and increasing operational costs. The Archbishop made clear today, however, that the consolidation plan, as well as the addition of exciting new academic program and other initiatives, will help insure that there will be a strengthened and vibrant school system in the future.

As a result of the school consolidations, many families will be assessing their school options for next year. At Resurrection-St. Paul School we plan to continue to offer a warm welcome to these families and do everything we can to answer their questions and help them realize the great school we have here! I hope that you and your children will join with us in that hospitality effort. It is possible that more children than usual will visit for shadow days and additional parents will be requesting school tours

I hope all of you will join us as ambassadors of our school, in recommending it not only to consolidated school families, but also to any family you know who might be interested in Resurrection-St. Paul School. I have always said that your firsthand endorsements are very important!

Our time of transformation here in the Archdiocese is still an ongoing process. The Blue Ribbon Committee on Catholic Schools will present its report to the Archbishop in June and we anticipate that its strategic plan will affect all of us in Catholic school education. In the meantime, if you are interested in reading the Archdiocese's recent report, *Preserving the Tradition, Transforming the Future: The Rebirth of Catholic Schools in the Archdiocese of Baltimore*, you may access it at: www.archbalt.org/aplacetogrow.

In closing, I ask that you remember the families, principals and teachers at consolidated schools in your prayers. May the zeal of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton inspire and guide all of us in the days and months ahead.

Sincerely,

Karen A. Murphy
Principal

Educating Children in the Catholic Tradition of Excellence & Values

