

Dear Prospective Family,

It is with great pleasure that I write this letter to articulate our family's appreciation for the experience our children currently enjoy at St. Brigid School. My husband and I are both graduates of St. Brigid. We are proud to have our daughter Julia (sixth grade) and son Grant (third grade) at St. Brigid. Now four years old, our third son, Logan, is eager to tell everyone that soon he will be going to St. Brigid "with his Julia and Grant." Though it will personally be hard for me when my "baby" goes to school, I am thrilled that he will have such a wonderful learning environment to spend his elementary years and know how lucky we are to have a school rich in academic excellence and religious immersion for our children.

Please allow me to share a few stories with you that I hope will illuminate our passion for this school and the Catholic experience in which our students have the opportunity to participate. We are very lucky to have children who enjoy participating in a variety of activities. Academic achievement is a number one priority in our home and our children have received rich engagement with academic content that is differentiated and engaging. Our sixth grader this year will be participating in a weeklong natural science education experience at Glen Helen under the guidance of her science teacher, is reading voraciously across multiple genres with the support of her language arts teacher, and is participating in a differentiated math experience to enrich her mathematical interests. Our third grader has blossomed in his ability to read with a confidence level we never expected at this point in his young academic career and is in heaven with his teacher who quickly identified his areas of strength and need and builds upon them across curricular and social areas.

In addition to classroom experiences, our children have had the privilege to participate in after school enrichment programs in art, Spanish, choir, basketball, volleyball, band, and an after school running club. Our daughter has had a part in our parish community performances in the past years and sings monthly for our parish school choir. Most importantly, my children and our family are part of multiple service projects coordinated through the school that provide us the opportunity to live our Christian faith by helping others.

Though we were always confident that St. Brigid was "our school," this choice was 100% solidified for me on the final day of our daughter's kindergarten year. On this day the physical education teacher coordinates "Wacky Water Days" in which the games are led by our graduating eighth graders and the students participate in their communities which are a yearlong group of students across grade levels. On this day the communities are led by the seventh graders as they prepare to become leaders for the school in their eighth grade year. I volunteered to help on this day and was overwhelmed by the leadership that emanated from the eighth graders and the caring provided by the seventh graders. Most importantly before anything began, every student gathered together on the parking lot, bowed their heads and prayed. We gave thanks for the beautiful day, for all those who had worked so hard to prepare it, and for those who were in need of our thoughts and love. I looked across that blacktop parking lot, at the faith-based community that literally

surrounded my child, and knew in every fiber of my heart that I had made the right choice for my children.

I hope you will consider making St. Brigid Elementary your child's educational home. Please feel free to contact me should you have any additional questions.

Sincerely,

Jackie M. Arnold, Ph.D.
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University of Dayton &
Proud Parent of Two St. Brigid School Children ☺
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