



**IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
HIGH SCHOOL**

217 Cottage Hill Avenue
Elmhurst, Illinois 60126
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www.ichsknights.org

ICHS Planning Process
Progress Report
February 2012

Since mid-September 2011, through personal conversations with ICHS stakeholders, school leadership has been soliciting support for the top funding priorities that emerged from our 75th anniversary planning process. Those priorities, which came as a result of the input of 500+ parents, students, alumni, faculty and friends, were as follows:

- Complete renovation of the existing science labs to create leading edge learning facilities.
- Establishment of new athletic fields at Plunkett, including all-season field turf, bleachers and press box.
- Renovation of the existing field house at Plunkett.
- Contribution to assist funding shared campus-wide facility renovations.

In fewer than five months, the response from leadership supporters has been very encouraging. Nearly \$900,000 in firm, written commitments and gifts have been secured. There is an additional \$570,000 in predicted commitments from those we have met with who told us they will support the initiative, but still have to finalize their written pledge commitment.

Though pleased with this start, we recognize we still have a long way to go to fund our top needs. To this point, we have remained relatively “quiet” in our fundraising. Over these next several months we will remain focused on meeting in person with supporters, asking them to consider making this initiative a family giving priority at whatever level is most appropriate.

In our conversations, we have been direct in pointing out that the improvements that will come from this initiative benefit the entire parish community:

- Plunkett renovations will positively impact our dynamic grade school sports programs.
- Support from pledges will also help the overall parish in its campus-wide renovations to facilities.

If you would like more information on how you might support our plans with a pledge to **Celebrating Tradition...Building Our Future**, please contact Scott LaMorte in our Advancement Office (630-530-3485 or slamorte@ichsknights.org).



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Program Enhancement

In addition to identifying the above funding priorities, the planning process identified some key program priorities. Five Task Forces have been established to look at current school efforts and make recommendations to the ICHS board for action. The task forces are as follows:

- (1) Academics/Curriculum
- (2) Technology
- (3) Recruitment
- (4) Marketing/Branding
- (4) Co-curricular Activities/Athletics

To date, we have made significant progress in this area. Both our Academics and Co-curricular Task Forces have completed their work and prepared recommendations that will be forward to our Board of Trustees for consideration. Our Technology Task Force has met, and will soon complete the task of compiling feedback and making similar recommendations. Lastly, our Recruitment and Marketing/Branding Task Forces will begin work shortly. All four task forces will make their recommendations to the Board of Trustees this Spring.

Timeline

Thanks to our positive fundraising start, we are beginning discussions now with representatives of the Diocese of Joliet on how to implement our planned renovations. Considerable time and effort is being spent by our staff and key volunteers to gather information on funding and site work for the projects in our initiative. We anticipate being able to share more details on when our community can anticipate the start of renovations before the end of this school year.