

+ God Alone

June 30, 2010

Dear Alumnae, Friends, Parents, and Employees,

When St. Joan Antida started the community of the Sisters of Charity in 1799, her first works were to open up a soup kitchen for the poor, care for the sick and start a free school for young women. Caring for the poor and sick and educating others, especially women, is something the Sisters of Charity continue to do today in 27 countries throughout the world.

In Milwaukee St. Joan Antida High School has been in existence for 55 years. Throughout those years the Sisters of Charity, along with many dedicated lay people, have helped to educate scores of young women. We are proud of the service we have given to these young women, their families, and the society into which they enter.

St. Joan Antida opened up a school where young women could be educated at a time when education for women was not deemed important. She saw that it was only through an education that these young women could break a cycle of poverty and lead productive lives. This is the mission that the Sisters of Charity of St. Joan Antida have continued at St. Joan Antida High School. We want to prepare young women to lead and serve in a global society through a values-based Catholic education.

You may have heard of changes taking place at the school. Change is always challenging but it can reap many benefits. The reasons for the changes are that we were not satisfied with the academic progress of the girls, the student culture, and the atmosphere present in the school.

In February we decided to alter the administrative structure to support our mission and vision. We put in place a Head of School model with an academic dean and dean of students. We also asked that all teachers and certain administrative employees reapply for their positions, including the sisters on staff. No one was asked to resign or was fired. A process was put in place so that everyone who applied was interviewed. We wanted to ensure that people desired to be part of the positive changes taking place and support the direction in which we were going.

As we look ahead to the 2010-2011 school year we are excited to be implementing a new schedule and curriculum that promotes increased instructional time, concentration on core academics, technology integrated into all courses, more advanced placement and science offerings, an expanded engineering program, a systemic academic and disciplinary intervention, and improved advisory with integration of restorative justice. We also want to improve the school climate with increased discipline and accountability and positive student life and participation.



*Servants
of the Poor*

Sisters of Charity of SAINT JOAN ANTIDA

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The focus of all that we do at the school is the girls. They are the ones who are important. We are hopeful that these changes will enhance the girls' educational, social, and moral/spiritual development.

If you care about the girls and the school please get involved. Spread positive information about the school and come for a visit. There are many volunteer opportunities and, of course, donations are always appreciated.

If you have any questions or concerns do not hesitate to contact us. Please pray for the girls, their families, and the staff and administration at the school. Be assured of our prayers for you and all of your needs.

Sincerely,

The Leadership Team
of the Sisters of Charity of St. Joan Antida

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sr. Anne Marie Baemmert". The script is fluid and cursive.

Sr. Anne Marie Baemmert, SCSJA
Provincial

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sr. Elizabeth Weber". The script is fluid and cursive.

Sr. Elizabeth Weber, SCSJA
Provincial Counselor

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sr. Mary Theresa Rozga". The script is fluid and cursive.

Sr. Mary Theresa Rozga, SCSJA
Provincial Counselor