

## **Science Olympiad Regional Competition 2011**

Last Saturday our team competed in the regional competition at GVSU. We had our best finish ever at 7<sup>th</sup> place. This finish qualifies us to compete at the state tournament on Saturday, April 30<sup>th</sup>. The state competition will be held at MSU and it will be here before we know it. Congratulations to our entire team for our great showing. Every single member of the team needed to perform well for us to make it to the state competition.

There are twenty three events that we competed in and needed to keep our scores in the twenties and below. Only five of our scores were in the twenties. Our team medaled in seven events which I believe is our best to date. The score sheet is on the back of this letter. Scores of eight and less earn a medal.

We began our practices at the beginning of October and met every week. Some students met more than once a week for different events. Throughout our practice schedule we were able to work with and around the various sports schedules. This alone is quite a feat. Leading up to our competition date we met the four prior Sundays for four hours each time. This is a lot of commitment from the students, coaches and parents. All of these many months of practice with only one guaranteed time to compete. Now we get to compete again!

Many thanks also go out to our school for their support, the Donnelly Foundation and Fox Ford through Phil Valinski for the financial support they granted to our team this year. A special thanks to our coaches, nine SPA alumni at CC and nine adults who have really worked hard this year. We could not have reached our goal without the help and support of our parents. You make it possible for us to field such great kids for our team, to do all the driving to and from practices and then drive even more for our extra practices.

I am immensely proud of all of our Science Olympians. We have a tremendous support system in place for our students enabling them to remain one of the top teams in our region. We are representing our diocese at the state competition as the only Catholic school in our region who made it to this level for 2011.

We are now hard at work for the state tournament and look forward to representing our school and diocese at MSU.

Sincerely,

*Mr. O'Rourke*