

Dear Parents,

Congratulations to all of our St. Paul the Apostle alums who graduated from CC or elsewhere and are moving on to the college phase of their lives. We are very proud of you, your hard work and your accomplishments. We wish you well at your chosen school and know that we'll continue to hear great things about all of you.

We, St. Paul the Apostle and the other area Catholic schools, are competing for students. The following information is meant to showcase our alumni and how well they have performed based on information from the CC school newspaper, the Blue & White, the Cum Laude Awards Dinner, the Grand Rapids Press and the Baccalaureate and Graduation Ceremony. I do not have quite as much information from other area schools as I do our own. Please keep this in mind while reading this letter. Also, this information is solely intended to focus on our students as compared to other students from three other area catholic schools. This information is in no way a negative reflection on any other school or its students. As stated earlier, we are competing for students and need to highlight what we at St. Paul the Apostle can do for our students and families. The names of the other schools will not appear next to their respective percentages. It's perfectly acceptable to present our school in a very positive light while at the same time not casting a negative light on any other school.

A little history on this class. St. Paul's graduated 25 eighth graders four years ago. Six of the 25 either moved or attended another high school. The remaining 19 students excelled and graduated this past spring at Catholic Central High School.

### ***A Comparison of St. Paul's School to Other Area Parochial Schools***

	<b><u>SPA</u></b>	<b><u>School A</u></b>	<b><u>School B</u></b>	<b><u>School C</u></b>
National Honor Society	26%	21%	26%	22%
Cum Laude	32%	7%	29%	19%

### **Awards & Accomplishments for the Class of 2009**

- \* Class Salutatorian
- \* Female athlete of the year, the Ted Sowle Award
- \* A total of 41 awards and scholarships were offered to St. Paul students this year. (Many students were offered multiple scholarships.)
- \* Ten students in total qualify for the Magna Cum Laude honors at CC. Two of the ten were from St. Paul the Apostle.
- \* One student earned the Grand Rapids Press Superstar Senior Award.
- \* One student was a National Merit Scholar and another earned the National Merit Scholar Commended status.
- \* Two alumni were athletes on the Girl's State High School Basketball Championship team.

<b>University/College</b>	<b>Number of SPA Students Attending</b>
Albion College	1
Central Michigan University	1
College of Mount St. Joseph	1
Grand Rapids Community College	4
Grand Valley State University	2
Harvard University	1
Michigan State University	1
Madonna University	1
Northern Michigan University	1
St. Louis University	1
Saint Mary's College	1
University of Notre Dame	1
University of Michigan	2
Western Michigan University	1
<b>Total Students Attending College</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>Percent of Students Attending College</b>	<b>100%</b>

We realize that so many of you make a big sacrifice in sending your child(ren) to St. Paul the Apostle School and want you to know how much we appreciate this level of commitment. We take our role as educators very seriously and work hard in providing a solid Catholic, moral, ethical and academic foundation for our students. There is so much to be proud of here at St. Paul the Apostle School. We are providing an excellent education for our children and students in a partnership that includes our parish, students, parents and teachers. We have a very, very good thing going and want our entire community to know what we have to offer students and families.

Sincerely,



Dan O'Rourke