Catholic Diocese of Saginaw

12/17/20

Dear Catholic School Teachers,

I hope this message finds you healthy. I am so pleased to be able to share with you the good news that through collaboration with the Catholic Community Foundation of Mid-Michigan (CCFMM), every teacher in our Catholic schools will be receiving a one-time stipend in the coming weeks. Through the generosity of those who have supported the Bishop Carlson, Bishop Untener, William & Marjorie Falsey Memorial, and St. Mary Medical Center endowment funds, over $53,000 will be dispersed to classroom teachers.

Since March of the 2019-2020 academic year, you have been asked to do some many things. In some cases, with little to no warning and/or training. When we returned to in-person instruction this year, it certainly was different. Face masks, cleaning desks after every class, elbow bumps, barriers, and of course, social distancing. This stipend is one way that I can marshal the resources available to our schools to support you in the important ministry that you carry out every day.

To a person, each of the principals repeatedly commented on how grateful they are for the dedication and professionalism that you have displayed throughout this process. I would encourage you to read the comments from the principals included in the general announcement. Unfortunately, due to space limitations, I could only include a small portion of the feedback that I received.

This stipend is not intended to add additional cost to the parish/school. Therefore, payroll costs (pension, social security, etc.) will be factored into the disbursements. It is my estimation that pre-tax, full-time teachers will receive approximately $440 and part-time teachers will receive $220 in a single, one-time disbursement. (Actual amounts may vary for shared time teachers based on individual employment status with a public school partner.) The specific date of distribution will vary by payroll date at your parish/school. Please direct specific questions to your respective business office.

I also want to acknowledge the contribution that those not included in this stipend have made during this pandemic. Clearly, the work of our maintenance staff, classroom aides, support staff, office professionals, and administrators is equally important to the operation of our schools. I am grateful for their support throughout the current school year. However, the endowments from which these funds were generated specifically reference supporting teachers' salaries as an intended use.

I hope that you are able to enjoy the upcoming Christmas break. Thank you for all that you have done to make learning, in-person or virtual, possible for our students.

Respectfully,

Cormac J. Lynn

Cormac Lynn
Superintendent - 989-860-6567
clynn@dioceseofsaginaw.org