



Seton Academy

Educating in Faith the Heart, Mind and Soul

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Last week, a family brought their daughter into Seton Academy for a tour and meeting to determine if we would be a good fit for her next September. Mom and dad introduced Madelyn to me, and she was a little shy. We spoke for a while and Maddie started to become a little more comfortable. Mrs. Parenteau offered her some coloring pages and she was opening up more as our conversation progressed. As we wrapped up our meeting, we went to “peak in” on Mrs. Robichaud’s room so the family could see what the environment was like in Kindergarten/1st Grade. The students were just starting to line up for recess when we arrived at the door and having everyone at the door was a little overwhelming. Maddie hid behind dad and peaked from behind him at the students.

While the adults were briefly talking about the décor and layout of the room, the students invited Maddie into the classroom. She reluctantly stepped out from behind dad and one student in particular, very calmly offered to show her the class pets. Maddie became intrigued and followed Davin around the room while he explained everything about the pets. Every student in the class followed and spoke with Maddie excitedly asking if she would stay with them. They showed her everything in the classroom and told her how much fun they had at school and the things they learned in Mrs. Robichaud’s class. Maddie quickly grew comfortable and in the span of 4-5 minutes, asked if she could go outside to recess with the class. Mom and dad let her go out and play while we finished our tour and meeting.

A half hour later, we reunited Maddie with her parents in the cafeteria. Maddie was eating a make-shift lunch with her new friends and having a great time. When her parents approached the lunch table to take her home, she asked if she could stay for the rest of the day. After some logistical discussions, Maddie was allowed to spend the rest of the day at Seton Academy!

Over the course of the next couple of days, mom and dad registered Maddie for the rest of this school year and next year. Her first full day with us is today (April 11th) and she’s having a lot of fun!

One could not have scripted a more touching and blessed scenario when Maddie’s family walked into that classroom last week. Those students, led by Davin, made her feel so welcome that she didn’t want to leave. And when she did leave at the end of the day, she couldn’t wait to come back. It was incredibly joyful to watch as the students lovingly interacted with a little girl they had just met. At no time were any of them directed by me or Mrs. Robichaud. They simply saw a young girl who was a little shy, reached out and warmly invited her to join them.

This is precisely the kind of environment we strive to foster at Seton Academy. Teaching the virtues of our faith and truly living those virtues each day is how we intend to help each student understand and use their God-given gifts for others. I wish I had the words to truly articulate how powerful these brief moments were last week. I can’t wait to see how all of our students progress through life using their gifts for others like we witnessed just a few days ago!

I thought you’d like to know....God Bless!

Mike