



Butte Central Catholic Schools



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November 18, 2019

Dear Butte Central Family:

It's hard to believe that the first quarter is in the books and we are only a week from Thanksgiving. We certainly have many exciting things to be grateful for in the Butte Central Catholic School System.

At Butte Central Catholic Elementary School, our students continue to learn and grow in a warm, caring atmosphere. Our teachers are amazing and they are doing a great job with the 275 students in preschool through 8th grade.

I am especially excited about our new ReadyGen Reading Series for our Kindergarten through 5th graders. Our teachers believe the program provides students with a great reading foundation and continuity to the learning process.

I'm also thrilled to hear about the establishment of the Junior Bishop Thomas Scholars Academy. The program, which provides enhanced learning opportunities for our 6th-8th graders, currently has 35 participants. Our new accelerated math program and our new school-wide writing emphasis are two other great examples of the excellence at BC Elementary.

The Cote Resource and Title I programs are making sure that all students have the support they need to be successful. As a school, it's our responsibility to help all students reach their highest potential.

At Butte Central Catholic High School, excellence and growth are two words to describe the Fall Quarter. On November 4th and 5th, the Western Catholic Education Association sent a visitation team to review our accreditation. After two days of interviewing teachers, students, administrators, and board members and reviewing school-wide data, the visitation team confirmed Butte Central's accreditation status. The WCEA team commended Butte Central's progress in improving technology, school safety, curriculum, faith development, college readiness programs, and the overall school culture. The team was

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encouraged by the many changes that have occurred in the last 18 months and the positive leadership at the school.

It's exciting to report that the Bishop Thomas Scholars Academy has 22 members and there are 56 students earning college credits through Montana Tech's Jump Start Program. It's exciting to hear about our new partnerships with Carroll College and the Montana Tech Nursing Program.

I would also like to congratulate the great work of our students in extra-curricular endeavors. Our volleyball team made it to the State Tournament for the 3rd time in school history, our football team advanced to playoffs, and several golfers and cross-country runners qualified for state events. Our high school Key Club continues to do great work and our music program continues to grow.

I would like to positively reflect on the faith development, prayer experiences, and religious education opportunities in our schools. Christian values and service to others are at the heart of our proud Catholic identity.

On this Tuesday, the Laverne Combo Thanksgiving Dinner will demonstrate our commitment to serving others. We are very proud of our weekly Masses at both schools. A special thanks to Abra Casey and Russ Nelson and their students for bringing amazing music to our liturgies.

Finally, a special thanks to our faculty, staff, administrators, volunteers, and board members for your hard work and dedication. We are blessed to have so many people who believe in our schools. A special thanks to all of our outstanding parents for your support. We would like to say "thank you" for having your children in Butte Central.

On behalf of the Butte Central Catholic School System, I would like to wish you and your family a Happy Thanksgiving. Please make plans to join us for Winterfest 2019 on December 5, 2019 at the MAC. It will be a great night for our BC Family to get together and celebrate our schools.

Sincerely,

Don Peoples, Jr.
President, Butte Central Catholic Schools