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Good News

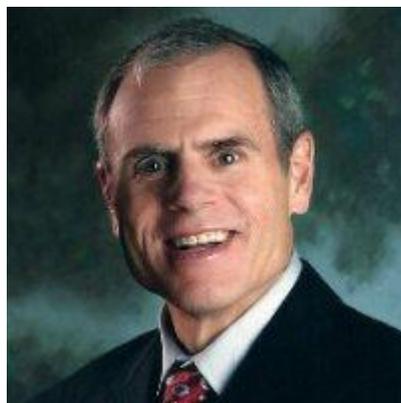
Salem Catholic Schools Foundation

March
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More
Good News

Blanchet's New Principal Says Catholic Education is Paramount to His Life

Brian Heinze hopes parents will think he is an "individual with the highest integrity"



"There was a feeling of chills and goose bumps similar to a sports moment when everything clicked and came together," said Brian Heinze after he was offered the position of principal of Blanchet Catholic School on December 12, 2013. Heinze took over the role, previously held by Tony Guevara, the first week of January 2014. Guevara temporarily covered the positions of both president and principal of Blanchet Catholic School. Guevara still serves as president. "The Blanchet Community has been very courteous and hospitable," Heinze said.

Heinze comes to the Blanchet Catholic School family with a wealth of knowledge in the educational field. He has over 25 years combined experience in teaching, administration and leadership. Among the various roles he has served in the past 25 years, Heinze has been a teacher, coach, athletic director, vice principal and principal in Oregon public schools. His educational experience isn't just limited to the states. Heinze was an educator for ARAMCO, the state-owned oil company in Saudi Arabia, coming up with a health and nutritional curriculum for multicultural students. He volunteers his time as a facilitator for Medical Teams International and has traveled with a six-person outreach team for the non-profit to Guatemala to help replace fire pits with basic stoves to villagers.

While his resume may be long, Heinze says family is his proudest accomplishment. "Witnessing the growth, maturity and accomplishments of my daughters has continually filled me with much pride and happiness," Heinze said. "The support, teamwork and love from my wife has been tremendous." Now, Heinze has another family (school) he will be looking over.

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Salem Catholic Schools Foundation

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"Catholic education is paramount in my life. The meaningful relationships that I have had and that exist today found their beginnings in Catholic education."

Heinze would like Blanchet parents to think of him as an 'individual with the highest integrity.' "That I am consistent, a good listener, help every student to be successful and with God on my team, always strive to do what is right and just." Heinze says he would like to share a connection with staff. "That we hold a level of trust where we believe in each other and we never stop learning and improving. That they feel acknowledged in their accomplishments and realize we too are here to connect, motivate, inspire and direct our students to be the best they can and be of the highest character."

Heinze has been familiar with Blanchet Catholic School, having had a niece and nephew attend. "Blanchet Catholic has a reputation of being very accomplished in academics and athletics. The friends of mine whom I have discussed Blanchet with, echoed those same comments." He wants families who send their children to a Catholic school such as Blanchet to know the children "will experience an environment rich with: prayer and thanksgiving; academic rigor; competitive athletics; energizing clubs; feeling of belonging; and a caring and highly qualified staff at a school where the ultimate experience is providing their children the road map to success."

There are many ongoing goals Heinze would like to accomplish as principal. The most important goal for him may be his vision. "I think of providing the foundation where our school (staff, students, parents and community) works together to achieve a vision. That vision will always lead to a doable dream. The end result will be the best religious (faith filled), academic and athletic institution in the mid-Willamette Valley."

Remembering Two Salem Catholic School Icons



Stephen Daniel Lynch

March 22, 1951 – December 28, 2013

On January 9, 2014, two weeks after Stephen Lynch passed away from a heart ailment, St. Joseph School celebrated the life of this man who touched many at the parish school. Faculty and students gathered together and shared memories of Mr. Lynch including

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showing a video of him and the teachers dancing the "Evolution of Dance," something one parent said Lynch would have liked shown to lighten the mood.

Stephen Lynch was principal for four years at St. Joseph School beginning in 2009 until his retirement in 2013. Lynch retired from a high-ranking health insurance position to accept the principal job. His intention at first was not to go back to work. Lynch said this in an article from The Lund Report: "I wanted to get out of corporate life and move back to Oregon. I thought that I'd ride off into the sunset; instead I rode into the playground."

Link to the obituary: <http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/statesmanjournal/obituary.aspx?pid=168869459>



Leo Henry GrosJacques

July 15, 1924 – February 4, 2014

"I played football for him and enjoyed his mentoring," said Dick Lefor, a graduate of Serra High. And for those like Lefor, who were lucky enough to be coached and taught by Leo GrosJacques, they admire a man who was successful in his personal and professional life. Mr. GrosJacques died on February 4, 2014. He was married to his wife, Ruth, for 51 years and raised five children together.

Leo GrosJacques is enshrined in two Halls of Fame for his excellence in sports. While at the University of Portland, he played basketball and baseball and became the only inductee for two sports in the University's Hall of Fame. In 2013, he was the first player inducted into the Hall of Fame for Mt. Angel Prep School. While he succeeded as a player, he also succeeded as a coach. He won 80 percent of the basketball games he coached at Sacred Heart Academy and Serra Catholic High School. GrosJacques had a positive effect in the classroom as well where he taught history, biology and religion.'

Link to the obituary: <http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/statesmanjournal/obituary.aspx?pid=169543428>

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