

St. Peter's Elementary School  
August 2010 Commission Report

1. The Toledo Diocese requires all diocesan schools to submit a five-day enrollment count to their office each year. Last year's enrollment in preschool through grade six was 367. As of Monday, August 9 our enrollment for the 2010-2011 school year stands at 361. The enrollment figures by grade level will be shared at tomorrow's meeting.
2. We welcome Mrs. Kathy Beres, Miss Elizabeth Mulherin, and Mrs. Sherry Vaught to St. Peter's. Mrs. Beres returns to St. Peter's after having taught kindergarten for one year at St. Mary's in Shelby and will assume the position in Montessori vacated by Mrs. Kayla Klopfenstein who has moved to the Cleveland area. Mrs. Beres has a Bachelor of Arts degree in elementary education from the State University of New York College at Buffalo. She previously taught for six years in our Montessori program and two years at St. Peter's in grade two. Miss Mulherin will be teaching second grade, replacing Mrs. Kelly Baker who has moved to Indiana. Miss Mulherin has a Bachelor of Arts degree in elementary education from Saint Mary's College in Notre Dame, Indiana. She previously taught kindergarten at St. Nicholas Academy in Lorain, Ohio and most recently has been a nanny for three different families in the Chicago area. Mrs. Vaught will be our new Title I Reading teacher, replacing Mrs. Dana Byrd who was reassigned to Sherman Elementary School.
3. We offer congratulations and very best wishes to one of our teachers upon her marriage this past June. Fourth grade teacher Miss Kaysi Eighinger became Mrs. Peter Snyder on June 26. We wish the newlyweds much happiness as they begin their married life together.
4. The theme for the coming school year in the elementary school will be "*St. Peter's: Respect the Past, Embrace the Future.*" This theme is in keeping with our school improvement plan goals and is also appropriate as we celebrate the centennial of the current St. Peter's Church building (cornerstone laid in 1911). You will see this theme being emphasized in various communications and highlighted in the entry of the school building. This theme reflects the goals of our School Improvement Plan as we begin year two in our five-year plan. The plan goals are:  
*Catholic Identity Goal: Students at St. Peter's Elementary School will give witness to the message of Jesus Christ by demonstrating growth in their respect for each other.*  
*Student Learning Goal: Students at St. Peter's Elementary School will improve their critical thinking skills in math by developing problem solving strategies with practical applications.*
5. This year our teachers will be implementing a software package known as Moodle (Modular Object-Oriented Dynamic Learning Environment). Teachers may use some of the features of Moodle to develop on-line tests and quizzes, share files or

documents with students, help create student web pages, post assignment links, do on-line journaling, and on-line text assignments. This is just a short list of possible uses of Moodle technology. Teachers will continue to grow as they learn more about Moodle capabilities that will enhance student learning.

6. This year we will be implementing a new math course of study, which comes to us from the Diocese of Toledo. Math teachers will be meeting before school starts to focus on ways to improve critical thinking in math, in keeping with our school improvement plan. Teachers will be creating formative assessment, including pre- and post-tests, and investigating grading procedures, in reference to the new course of study. Follow-up sessions are planned during the school year.
7. Educational Apparel will be at St. Peter's on Thursday, August 12 from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. in the church basement to assist you in purchasing uniform items.
8. The Open House for students attending Montessori, kindergarten, kindergarten enrichment, and grades one through six will take place on Thursday, August 19 from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. All traditional kindergarten and kindergarten enrichment students as well as new students in grades two through six and their parents are strongly encouraged to attend a special orientation session from 5:15 to 5:45 p.m. on Thursday, August 19, prior to the general Open House, to review basic policies and procedures of the school. The sessions will be held in your child's homeroom.
9. All of you are cordially invited to our opening all-school (grades 1-12) liturgy on Thursday, September 2. During the school year, students in grades 1-6 will usually attend Mass on Tuesdays at 8:15 a.m. Weekly Masses, as well as liturgies for special occasions, are noted on the monthly calendar sent home in the home-school envelope. We invite parents to join us for weekly and special liturgies throughout the school year.