



• CELEBRATING 95 YEARS •
SAINT CATHERINE
of **SIENA SCHOOL**

May 3, 2021

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Yesterday, I was at my in-laws sitting on their porch enjoying the beautiful day. Whenever I am at their home, I can't help but see my Father in-law's dream car in the driveway. He bought it a few years ago. It is a big black *Camaro with* tinted windows. He had been talking about that car for years. I first heard about his *dream car* right after I was introduced to my husband's family years ago. I have to admit that I thought that he would never buy it. We were all so surprised when we got the text with a picture of the fancy car in their driveway. He spent years working three jobs to pay for his kids to go to school. First at St. Mary's in Melrose and then, college, graduate school and beyond. I don't think that he and my mother-in-law had ever purchased a new car before - much less a shiny, black sports car. That car, though, always reminds me that hard work and determination can help make dreams come true.

It seems that a lot of dreams are coming true lately as our SCS educators and some parents too have recently been vaccinated; thanks to the hard work and dedication of all those involved in their development, right here in Norwood and beyond! God gifted these individuals, as He gives all of us, the many talents and blessings which allowed these vaccines to come to fruition. On Saturday, our SCS Second Graders were able to celebrate First Holy Communion on a gorgeous day as planned. I think that for so many of us, the last year has felt like Holy Saturday as we wait and wait apart from family and friends. Finally, as we are vaccinated, we are able to return to the ones that we love just as Christ returns to his disciples on Easter; imagine the joy on their faces as they saw their Lord again! As one of my SCS colleagues said to me in a text recently, we are absolutely a '*community modeled in the belief of the resurrection.*' Please know that we are blessed to be on this journey with you. The teachers, faculty, staff and I are so grateful for your patience and understanding as we continue to navigate this unusual time.

It was a dream come true to sit at Mass on Saturday and see our Second Graders receive the Holy Eucharist for the first time. It was a dream come true last week to have Mr. Zayka's class lead the Middle School in Daily Morning Prayer again all together in the cafeteria albeit, with distance. It was a dream come true to watch our 7th Graders present their Science projects in class last month and see projects like Brendan McTernan's *all terrain robot* modeled for us and have him share the research he completed! Way to go, Brendan! It was a dream come true that Brendan and 10 Middle Schoolers were not only awarded for their excellence at the Regional Virtual Science Fair but have been accepted to present at the State Science Fair! It was a dream come true for Senora's Pelaggi's 8th Graders to take the National Spanish Exam and so exciting that 15 of our 8th Graders will receive medals for their achievement on that test representing their hard work. All 8th Graders scored higher on that test than any 8th Grade in the history of Saint Catherine of Siena School. Hard work and determination, using our unique gifts from God!

We are so proud of all the hard work of our students, their tremendous accomplishments in spite of a pandemic, our teachers, support staff, and most especially you, our parents, for the hard work and dedication to help our students to learn and to love learning. Dreams do come true! And, if you are on Route 93 or Route 95 near Melrose and see a black camaro drive by, it is probably my father-in-law on the way to work (or to play 18!). After all of his hard work, he deserves it. #DreamBigDreamFierce #Gofurtherwithfaith

Yours in Christ,

Beth