

## ADMISSION

***North American Martyrs School exists primarily to assist Catholic parishioners who are faithfully practicing their faith in the total education of their children.*** It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national or ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other school-administered programs.

Attendance at our school is a privilege. To maintain a positive and productive environment, parental support is essential. Courtesy and respect towards teachers, staff, and administration, whether over the phone or through personal contact, is required at all times so we can effectively resolve any conflicts or concerns that may arise on occasion.

An **annual registration** will be conducted in the early spring for students currently enrolled in Martyrs School (provided tuition and fees are paid in full or other arrangements have been made with the pastor).

After pre-registration, non-reserved spaces in the classrooms will be opened to others who may wish to enroll. Parents and transferring students will be interviewed prior to acceptance. Priority for transfer students may consider the following:

- 1) New students from registered parishioners, with transfers from other Catholic schools considered first.
- 2) Catholic students.
- 3) Non-Catholic students.

Classroom enrollment will generally be limited to 30 students. When there is more than one classroom per grade, several factors are considered in dividing the class. These include: changing the classes each year so students make new friendships; providing a multi-cultural atmosphere in the classroom; and factoring an even boy/girl ratio. Please do not request to have your child placed in a particular classroom.

According to Nebraska State Law, to begin kindergarten a child must be five years old before October 15.

**A physical examination is required by the State Department of Education for all students before entrance into school and when beginning the seventh grade and when transferring from out of state.** In addition, parents must provide written proof of immunizations as required by state law [Neb.Rev.Stat 79-444(3)] at the time of enrollment. A yearly dental examination for each child is suggested.

Also required for new admissions is a certified copy of the student's birth certificate, a copy of the baptismal certificate (if baptized), and, if the student is transferring to Martyrs, academic and health records from the former school. (Parents or guardians of students transferring into North American Martyrs School will be asked to sign a "release of records" form.)

## TUITION AND FEES

The North American Martyrs registered family tuition rates for the 2009-2010 school year are as follows: \$550 each for the 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> child, \$275 for the 3<sup>rd</sup> child, and no tuition (\$0) charged for 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> child. Total fees for each student: \$50.00. The amount due at registration is not refundable, except in the event that a grade reaches enrollment capacity. Our tuition rates try to make a Catholic education affordable particularly for larger families with three or more children.

**Need for prompt payment:** Because we have a monthly payroll of \$92,000 to meet, there will be a late fee of \$15 per month for those who are more than one month behind in tuition payments. Those who become more than three months delinquent will be contacted for a meeting with the pastor regarding their child's continued enrollment in our school. At times, families may put other expenses in front of their parish and school contributions. We encourage our families to reflect on where their priorities lie and realize that our Lord and our fine school deserves our first priority.

**E-tuition** is a convenient means by which your monthly tuition bill is electronically withdrawn from your checking or savings account. Families are encouraged to enroll in this program to ensure that their monthly tuition is paid on time. E-tuition forms are available in the office or on our website. A new form is required each school year.

**TUITION ASSISTANCE POLICY:** Our policy on school tuition assistance is as follows:

The family pays 20% of the cost of education and the parish and other donations account for the remaining 80%. In the school year 2008-09, the total cost of educating a child at North American Martyrs was approximately \$3,000 per student. Families with more than one child in school are already receiving an even greater subsidized rate of tuition. Assistance will be given only if families have sincere need and can show they are making the right financial priorities in life.

In cases of genuine, short term hardship, the parish will do what we can to assist you with part of your tuition. This requires that you meet with the pastor to show that the following criteria have been met:

- Families must attend Mass regularly (every week) at North American Martyrs and be supporting the parish through genuine sacrificial giving of time, talent, and treasure according to their means.
- Families must have applied and qualified for free or reduced lunches and the Dillon scholarship.
- Families must complete the required number of volunteers hours outlined in the student handbook.
- Families must fulfill, on a regular monthly basis, the reduced tuition rate agreed upon with the pastor in a meeting held by late November after the Dillon scholarships are awarded.
- Any pastoral advice given by the pastor to address the personal, spiritual and financial difficulties should be followed, including expectations on proper budgeting to meet school financial obligations.
- **Pius X High School:** Our parish pays a substantial assessment to Pius X each month for our students attending there. Families who need assistance with their portion of these costs (tuition) must have applied for and received all Pius scholarships. Families needing assistance must meet with Fr. Connor by March 31<sup>st</sup> of that school year to work out terms for possible short-term and partial assistance.