

## **ABVM Families questions from 2/2/2012 to 2/8/2012**

Q- Seeing that most if not all grades will have more than 1 teacher per grade, are there any plans to start "tracking" kids like they did years ago? Children learn and grow at different levels. It would be very beneficial if some type of tracking was put into place. I know ABVM lost whole families in the past because 1 child needed a little more attention and the classroom was not set up to accommodate that child.

***A- This question has been given directly to the educators that are on the board and will be reviewed. This is a very important point and the board will take note of it as we feel it is critical for Cardinal Foley school to provide a great education for all of our children.***

Q- I have a question/thought regarding how foreign language is going to be taught in the new school. I understand that Spanish will be taught in grades 1-8 and Latin in grade 8 but I was wondering exactly how much will be covered. For example, 8th grade students at Haverford Middle School currently take Spanish, French, Italian or Latin as a MAJOR subject, thus when they enter high school, they do not begin with Spanish I, etc. Rather they continue with Spanish/French II. I see this as a tremendous advantage for those students in the district and I was wondering/hoping that this advantage could be extended to our students as well. It would be nice to structure the Foreign Language program in such a way that our students could earn a "year" of language that would be recognized on the high school level in the district as well as in Catholic high schools. Thank you, keep up the amazing work.

***A- This question was also submitted to the educators for their review and consideration. As we go through this process a review of the curriculum is taking place and we are looking into what is the best way to implement programs to the benefit of the children. As developments on the curriculum occur we will be sure to keep parents in the loop.***

Snippets from a comment email: Sports rivalries are great experiences, however the ABVM vs. St. Denis rivalry needs to end & not endure in the classroom. I cannot envision any real positive in leaving the CYOs separate. Create the best "combined" CYO program in the diocese. Find opportunities for our children to play together, create other sports opportunities where before there was none, and look to solving this issue with the foresight of many years to come. Through all these recent difficult times, I've maintained that the decisions can be viewed from two sides; the nostalgic view creates sadness & some bitterness, however from a "business" view the decisions seem to make tremendous sense. From a business standpoint nothing will "sell" the new Foley school better than sports. Having this new community united behind the new school colors & mascot will create a "buzz" in Havertown. Top that with one CYO championship & the school's marketing campaign became that much easier.

Another Comment- There are countless studies out there which demonstrate that a successful athletic program helps a school to be more attractive to prospective students, increases participation amongst students, and facilitates positive growth. With that, I feel it is the responsibility of this committee to establish a program within Cardinal Foley School. The CYO of each parish can choose to do what they wish, but our children should have the opportunity to represent their own school. If there is a concern that the PREP students would be excluded, I disagree, as the school they attend has their own sports programs for them to represent. Why should our students, whom we will be paying good money to send them to Cardinal Foley, not be given the opportunity to represent Cardinal Foley School? I do not know of another school where the students do not have this ability.

\* There was no other comments in regards to CYO. If they were they would be posted.

***A- There is an ABVM CYO meeting on Wed. Feb 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:00PM in the ABVM Church Hall. This is open to all parents and this will be a form for parents to voice their opinion.***

Q- Is it possible to send us a picture of the three uniform choices prior to the uniform meeting? I would like to show xx and base our family's vote on what she likes since she is the one wearing it. Thanks for looking into this. I was wondering if it would at all be possible to have pictures of the new uniforms sent via e mail and vote that way for those that cannot make it on the 16th at St. Denis.

***A- We will reach out to Flynn and O'Hara to see if they would be able to provide useful pictures to share with our families. We really want to encourage all families to be present at the social to vote. A big part of the social is the fact that it is a great opportunity to bring our two communities together. Even if someone is only able to stop in for 10 minutes to place their vote and meet a few people we feel it is worth it. Ballots will be given out at the social to allow each family one vote.***