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**Archdiocese of Los Angeles**

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September 15, 2014

Dear Saint Euphrasia Families,

We are excited to announce that Saint Euphrasia is one of seven schools invited to participate in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles Standards-based Report Card Pilot. Saint Euphrasia was selected because of its dedication to academic excellence and its commitment to meeting the needs of each student.

This Pilot does not change the education that your child is already receiving. Saint Euphrasia already provides a strong education that is based on academic standards. **Instead, this Pilot is designed to develop a new Report Card that provides more specific information about your child's academic progress.**

The traditional Report Card only provides one grade for each subject area. This format does not communicate the student's ability to master each standard within the subject and does not provide information about how to improve. A Standards-based Report Card is designed to address these problems. In a Standards-based Report, you receive information about your child's performance on each standard within a subject. We believe that this information will strengthen the partnership between the school, parents, and students. In addition, research has proven that this information leads to significant improvements in student learning and positive increases in student attitudes about school.<sup>1</sup>

Standards-based Report Cards are already used in several Catholic dioceses across the nation, and we are excited to bring them to Los Angeles. Our goal is to pilot the Standards-based Report Card in seven schools this year with the intention of receiving feedback from the schools throughout the year so that we can improve the format. It will then be made available to all archdiocesan elementary schools the following year with the goal of full implementation within 3 years.

The elementary Department of Catholic Schools is partnering with the High School Curriculum Committee to ensure that all high schools understand the information provided in the Standards-based Report Card. We are all excited about the clarity and detail of the information that will be available in this new format.

As part of their participation in the Pilot, Saint Euphrasia teachers will also receive professional development throughout the year to support their ongoing efforts to provide a standards-based education to all of their students.

Thank you for your commitment to Catholic education. We look forward to working closely with the school this year.

Sincerely in Christ,

Kevin Baxter, Ed.D.  
Superintendent of Elementary Schools  
Archdiocese of Los Angeles

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<sup>1</sup> Thomas R. Guskey and Jane M. Bailey, *Developing Grading and Reporting Systems for Student Learning* (Thousand Oaks, CA: Corwin Press, 2001).