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Why do we have a registration fee?

Dear Parents,

At their last meeting, the Norwalk Catholic School Governing Board voted to increase tuition by only \$25 dollars per student for next year, keeping with their commitment to keep tuition affordable for our families. They also chose not to increase the tuition cap for families. The board recognizes the many sacrifices our parents make in supporting their parishes, the annual Friends for the Future Campaign and through tuition. I was delighted with the decision to keep the increase affordable for our families.

Additionally, there was discussion about the required registration fee associated with the annual registration process. The question was asked, "Just what does the registration fee do for the school?"

Historically, a registration fee is considered a "placeholder fee" in order for a family to make sure their son or daughter has a place reserved for them in the school. Additionally, the registration fee makes sure the family has made a commitment to be part of the school. In essence, it provides security for the school (acknowledging a commitment) and security for the parent (acknowledging a seat). The fee is, traditionally, considered a reservation fee while covering the costs associated with the registration process.

- At Norwalk Catholic School, we also utilize the registration fee as a means of covering additional costs associated with educating a child. We have many dollars committed to copiers, copy paper and significant consumables utilized on a daily basis by our students.
- The registration fee also allows us to purchase software licenses for Power School, making sure the parent reporting fees are covered.
- Several years ago, the Junior High and High School rolled lab fees, underclassmen retreat fees and some other miscellaneous fees into the registration fee in order to eliminate multiple requests. It also helps explain the higher costs for the high school fees.

If you have special circumstances that make the lump sum payment of the registration fee problematic, please contact Julie Grine, tuition manager, to make special arrangements. Thank you for your support of Norwalk Catholic School. We are happy to serve you and your children.

Sincerely,

Dennis J. Doughty
President