



May 20, 2019

Dear Catholic School Families,

Summer is quickly approaching, and I wanted to write to you before school is out to share some very exciting news for our school community. Two anonymous donors have pledged just under \$1 million dollars towards the installation of a synthetic turf field on the Seton Catholic Central campus. This field will accommodate practices and games for soccer and lacrosse, as well as use by our physical education classes and summer camps. The Catholic Schools of Broome County (CSBC) has been working on this project, in one form or another, since 1999. It will greatly enhance our sports programs in so many ways. The entire project, including some of the anticipatory prep work that was done last summer, will cost approximately \$1.1 million dollars. This is in addition to the \$3.2 million that was raised through our first ever capital campaign, held over the previous two years and reinvested back into our schools with major improvements to both facilities and curriculum. This shows our commitment to ensuring the long-term viability of Catholic education in our community.

Work on the field will begin immediately following the last day of school and the field will be ready for the beginning of fall sports practices in August. The project is being done by Clark, Inc. which is one of the industry leaders in turf field installations.

And now for the most exciting part about this project... the naming. In August, upon completion of the field installation we will hold a naming ceremony. The field will be dedicated and named after one of the CSBC's biggest supporters. This person re-established Seton's lacrosse program in 2005, was the founder of the Don Hengel Memorial Golf Tournament which raised over a million dollars for our schools, and was chairman and board member of the Catholic Education Foundation (CEF) which continues to raise funds for our students and schools. This dedication is without a doubt fitting, and a wonderful tribute to a Catholic Schools of Broome County legend! I am humbled and honored to announce the new turf field will be named the **John G. Dowd Field!** This will be a wonderful memorial that represents John's impact on our alumni, students, schools and community.

My sincere appreciation to our donors, alumni, students, families, faculty, staff, board members and administrators who have a part in making our schools so great! God bless you and thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Elizabeth Carter', is written over the typed name.

Elizabeth Carter, PhD

President of the Catholic Schools of Broome County

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