

St. Matthew Catholic School

Annual Report

2012-2013

320 N. 20th Dr.

Phoenix, AZ 85009

Friend us on face book : Saint Matthew Catholic School



OUR MISSION

St. Matthew Catholic School is a partnership with parents, faculty, students and our neighborhood community committed to developing the whole child with the integration of academic excellence and Catholic values within a safe and nurturing environment.

PHILOSOPHY

St. Matthew is a Catholic elementary school whose purpose is to educate our students in academics, faith formation and Roman Catholic doctrine which encompasses Catholic Christian morals and values, social justice and environmental responsibility, empowering them to live their faith with integrity and conviction. Through the cooperative efforts of our parents, faculty, staff and pastor we strive to develop the whole child to be a responsible, self-directed individual. We recognize the uniqueness and value of each child as a member of our faith community, having the right to develop and learn in a safe and nurturing environment. We encourage our students to embrace their Roman Catholic identity in order to contribute to society in a positive way.

School wide learning expectations are achieved by:

Active Catholic Who:

Practice social justice by serving the poor and demonstrate a willingness to work for change.
Respect self and God's creation through healthful living in mind, body and spirit.
Demonstrate knowledge of the Catholic faith and actively participate in the Mass.
Engage in charitable works and donate their time, talent and treasure.

Effective Communicators Who:

Appropriate and coherently articulate through verbal, written and technological skills
Can perform tasks as directed and ask for help when necessary
Interact with others regardless of race, color, religion, gender or economic background
Can listen and demonstrate active listening skills



Responsible Citizens Who:

Are globally and environmentally concerned and display awareness of current events
Practice social justice, understand diversity, and preserve the dignity of others
Understand the civic duties and responsibilities of an American Citizen
Volunteer time, energy and talent to the school and community
Demonstrate respect for authority, self and each other

Self-Directed Learners Who:

Incorporate and exhibit the "Discipline With Purpose Program" skills
Set realistic goals and priorities and strive for achievement
Display initiative, work independently and strive for achievement

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Dear Friend of St Matthew Catholic School,

Welcome to the third issue of the St. Matthew School annual report!

As we look forward to the 2013-2014 school year, we do so with the satisfaction of knowing that we have done our very best to live out our number one school-wide learning expectation, to live as an *Active Catholic* and to reflect on how this value permeates and informs all that we do at St. Matthew Catholic School. In this report you will read about a range of co-curricular activities and opportunities that engage students and families, staff and faculty on our campus. All of us are dedicated to putting our cherished values and Catholic beliefs into practice on a daily basis in a variety of engaging and interesting ways.

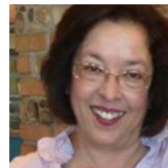
Our Principal and faculty are beginning their seventh year together and we welcome Ms. Yvette Sandoval, our new Spanish-only third and fourth grade teacher. In early August we look forward to welcoming Tracy and Justine, our new “recruits” from the Jesuit Volunteers.

We are beginning our fifth year as the Diocese’s only dual-language program, expanding into third and fourth grade. We shall also do so as one of twelve Catholic schools chosen from all across the country by Boston College to pilot a two year program intended to promote excellence in dual-language instruction.

We hope that you can see in these pages the extent to which we value our St. Matthew heritage and traditions, and in particular our commitment to the Gospel of Jesus Christ with its emphasis on serving the children of immigrants and of the poor. We are committed to providing a solid education for our students and we continue to encourage the participation of our families. We truly believe that we are here for “the sake of each and every child” to make a difference and leave an indelible imprint into each student’s life as they leave us for High School.

In closing, we must reassert the reality that without your continued financial and spiritual support we are unable to continue living out our mission, growing our programs and providing the best for our students. We hope that many of you will consider partnering (or continuing to partner) with us and becoming a part of *St. Matt’s Family!*

May God bless you for your continued support of St. Matthew Catholic School.



A handwritten signature in cursive that reads "Rev. R. Ritari".

A handwritten signature in cursive that reads "Gena".

Raymond J. Ritari, Pastor
McGowan, M.Ed., M.C.
St Matthew Catholic Church and School

Principal, St Matthew Catholic School

Gena



Catholic

Religious Identity

- Daily morning prayer in church with the Pastor Weekly Eucharist
- Advent and Lent reconciliation service
- Students received Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist
- May Crowning
- Day of Prayer 6th, 7th & 8th grades
- Celebrated Catholic Schools Week

Curriculum

- Continued dual language into 2nd grade
- Increased volunteers to help tutor Federal Title services



Community Outreach

- Penny Drive for African students
- Saint Vincent DePaul food drive
- Rice Bowl collection
- Woman's life Choices Clinic
- Heiffer International

Activities, Athletics, Extended Care and Summer School

- Boys and Girls Club after school care
- Loyola project after school tutoring Katzen Music Program
- Ball room dancing 4th & 5th grade
- Sports: Girls Volley ball (5th & 6th) and (7th & 8th); Boys Football (5th-8th); Boys Basket- ball (5th & 6th) and (7th & 8th); Girls soft- ball (5th-8th); Boys Baseball (5th-8th); Girls Basketball (5th-6th) and (7th-8th).
- Cheer Club
- Summer School tutoring K-3
- 8th grade trip to San Diego
- Smiles summer program
- Brophy Summer School program

Identity



Technology

- Computer Lab remodeled
- All classrooms and court yard were enhanced with improved wireless internet.
- All classrooms received new wireless printers
- Added two new copy machines/scanners to the school network allowing teachers to copy and scan from their classrooms.
- Added “Log me in” so that all teachers and staff can access their desk top school computers from home.
- Added student email accounts for grades 4 to 8 students.

Achievements & Recognitions

- 2012-2013 CYO Boys Basketball Champs
- Hosted first Diocesan Science Fair

Fundraising Activities

- Fiesta
- Worlds finest chocolate sale
- Christmas card
- Celebrate 2 Educate
- Water day
- CEA development



Facility Enhancements

- New led lighting in all the classrooms and cafeterias has helped save money.

School Services

- Counseling through Catholic Charities
- Community referrals for families

Advisory Board & Parent Group

- School Board meetings with the Pastor and Principal
- Planned and hosted annual Fiesta
- Parents worked over 4600 service hours at the school in 2012/2013

Parent Service and Family Diversity

Parent Service

The success of St. Matthew School is largely related to the generous participation of the families in the life of the school. Family volunteers dedicate their time in a variety of ways to support the school. In early October each year, our families help organize a Fall Fiesta. This is a day of fun, games, food, and fundraising. This event raised \$5,000.00 for our school.

Parents also have a large role in our Spring Event Celebrate 2 Educate. A Fiesta under the stars. They help setup, cook, serve and clean up. This event raised \$7,500.00 this May.

Some of our families also volunteer at the school to help with everything from office work to assisting as aids in our class rooms. Over the past year, our parents volunteered over 3,600 hours to the school.

Continuing to build and enrich relationships and community with our families, we offer a variety of services to assist them where there is need.

Family Diversity

Our school operates under the historical assumption that Catholic Schools were founded in the United States during the 19th century by such greats as Mother Seton and Mother Drexel to educate the children of immigrants and minorities. St. Matthew School' families are representative of both groups. The majority of our families are those whose parents and grandparents were born in Mexico, or are recently arrived from Mexico. The average income at St. Matthew School for a family of 4 is \$24,000 per year. Because of this, 99.9% of our students receive reduced or free Federal breakfast and lunch.

The school itself is 51% male and 49% female. 47% of the household speak Spanish only while 38% speak English only at home. 15% are bi-lingual. 99% of the student body are Catholic. 51% of the students go home to both parents. 46% go home to a single parent. 3% go home to a non parental guardian. 87% of the student body are from the immediate school area while 13% drive in from up to 27 miles away.



Curriculum

A Dual Language Program is an educational program that instructs students in two languages. St. Matthew School introduced Dual Language Instruction in Kindergarten and First Grade for 2009-2010, and in 2010-2013 in Kindergarten through Second Grade-based on the program at and in collaboration with Desert Willow Elementary School in the Cave Creek Unified School District. In St. Matthew's program, Language Arts (English), Social Studies, Religion, Physical Education, and Computers are taught in English and Mathematics, Science, and Language Arts are taught in Spanish.

The purpose of the program is to encourage our students to achieve high levels of proficiency in a second language without detrimental effects to their primary language development. Studies show that they perform better on tasks that call for divergent thinking, pattern recognition, and problem solving, and develop advanced levels of linguistic awareness. Studies further prove that their ability to reason and to perform higher level thinking is enhanced by understanding two languages simultaneously. Since most social interactions are by choice, the motivation to understand is so strong it encourages student learning. By interacting with peers who are fluent in the target language, monolingual children become proficient in a short period of time. Proficiency in two languages also permits individuals to expand their world. We look forward to expanding the program into Third Grade in 2013-2014 and to Fourth Grade by 2015.

The Dual Language program was also selected as one of twelve Catholic schools nationwide to participate in a pilot program to implement multi-lingual instruction in Catholic Schools. The program is co-sponsored by the National Catholic Educational Association (NCEA) and Boston College. The program will sponsor a weeklong workshop in Boston for five of the eight member team as well as sponsor a mentor who will work with the school for the next two years to hone the program into further excellence. We are pleased that Ms Cristina Ladas, the founder of the program at Desert Willow has agreed to step into this role, in order to take our program "to the next level".

The 2008-2009 accreditation recommended that St Matthew School improve its methods for assessing and measuring student learning. In addition to the Iowa Test of Basic Skills administered in September, students are given "benchmark" exams at the beginning of the year and then again in May. During this past school year, teachers have also attended intensive training in The Common Core Standards taught by Dr. Melissa Castillo and members of her team. The school anticipates fully transitioning to instruction based on these standards by 2015.

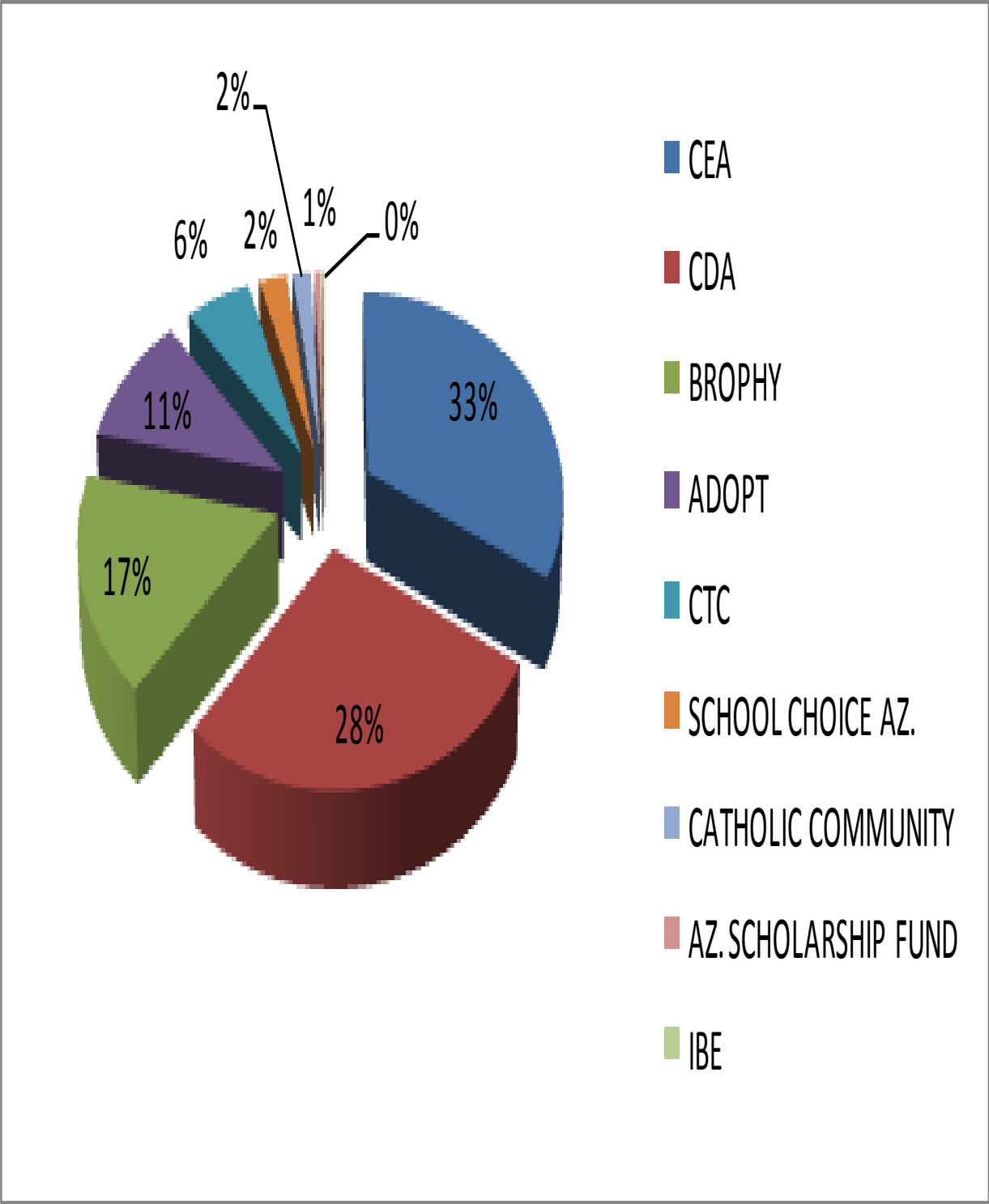
All teachers are formally and informally observed throughout the year and our number one School-wide learning expectation continues to be that students become *Active Catholics*. As such, maintaining an ongoing sense of our Catholic identity is our foremost priority and this past year expressed itself by reviewing all of the social teachings of the Catholic Church thereby giving the students a sense of themselves as responsible for the world and their brothers and sisters who inhabit it.

Gifts and student funding

<i>Charitable Funding</i>	2009-2010 Award	2010-2011 Award	2011-2012 Award	2012-2013 Award	2009-2010 Students Served	2010-2011 Students Served	2011-2012 Students Served	2012-2013 Students Served
Catholic Community Foundation	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$15,000	190	185	18	14
CEA	\$160,000	\$327,468	\$257,406	\$290,469.99	190	185	209	194
IBE	\$8,000	\$3,400	\$2,000	\$2,200.00	3	1	2	6
School Choice AZ.	0			\$22,166.67				18
CTC	\$41,783	\$19,705	\$18,112	\$51,890.01	190	185	209	194
Brophy Community Foundation	\$4,500	\$41,100	\$136,850	\$148,200.00	9	35	150	194
Az. Scholarship Fund	0			\$5,161.00				6
CDA	\$300,000	\$259,000	\$265,500	\$240,166.74	190	185	209	194

<i>Adopt-A-Student Individual Donations:</i>	2009-2010 Donations	2010-2011 Donations	2011-2012 Donations	2012-2013 Donations	2010-2011 Students Served	2011-2012 Students Served	2012-2013 Students served
\$15,000-\$100,000	3	1	0	0	185	185	0
\$1,000-\$14,999	21	28	27	37	185	209	194
\$500-\$999	16	48	55	58	185	209	194
\$100-\$499	105	110	135	186	185	209	194
\$1-\$99	110	225	259	325	185	209	194
Total Donors	265	412	476	606			
Total funds raised	\$193,809	\$77,595	\$108,573	\$94,081.82			

Graph of student funding



GRADUATES



CLASS OF 2013

21 young men and women were promoted to High School in May. 52% will be attending Catholic High School next Fall. We wish them all a successful and happy High School life.

Number of Graduates	High School
4	Bourgade Catholic H.S.
6	St. Mary's Catholic H.S.
1	Brophy H.S.
4	Franklin H.S.
1	Independence H.S.
2	Central H.S.
1	Mt. Point H.S.
1	La Jolla H.S.
1	Fairfax H.S.

APPLES 4 ANGELS

Poverty damages children's dispositions and blunts their brains. We have seen articles about the language deficit in poor homes and the gaps in school achievement. These remind us that poverty is now likely to define many children's trajectories in the harshest way: Poor academic achievement, high dropout rates, and a variety of health issues.

Our plan at St. Matthew's is to better equip and communicate with students and parents in the 21st century so as to close the gap that exists between rich and poor schools. The majority of our students live at or below the poverty level. However, this should not inhibit them to achieve their full potential. With our **Apples4Angels**, we will support them in their success in our ever growing technological age. At St. Matthew School we have developed a three year plan ,with your financial assistance, will help us to close the gap.

One way we are asking you to assist us, is through the gradual implementation of iPads for our faculty and student body. Arguments can be made about the expense of such an endeavor. However, with the sales of desk top and lap top computers on the decline, and the sales of tablets , iPads and smart phones on the increase, it has become apparent that the market, the way we learn, and the way we retrieve/communicate information is changing. The fundamentals of key boarding and typing are still important, but the access to current information, when and where students need is ever increasing in importance.

How does all of this impact the students at St. Matthew's?

High Schools both public and private are moving to technology in the class room. This means that teachers have to possess both the skills to use the technology and how to implement or integrate it into the classroom. It also means our students must learn to utilize the tools and power of an iPad to attain levels of competence at the high school level and beyond.



An annual survey conducted at St. Matthew’s School for the past 7 years, asked students about their technology at home. The survey revealed several important facts: 1) Home computers are in 77% of our students homes. That compares to 48% just 4 years earlier. 2) Smart phone are in 56% of homes versus 39% three years earlier. 3) Tablet’s and iPad’s are in 41% of homes as opposed to three years earlier at 18%. 4) Home internet is in 63% of homes up from 24% four years ago. These results indicate that mobile devices are on the rise as is internet installation in the home.

Given the socioeconomic base of St. Matthew, (families of four average incomes are \$24,900), it is an educational imperative to equip our students with the technology and skills of the 21st Century. We would be remiss in not providing the same opportunities availed to students of wealthier schools. Our students must have the skills to work beside other students with the same technological skills.

Please find enclosed a pledge card for our **Apples4Angels** campaign. We would ask that you make every effort to be as generous as possible. Our financial goal for implementation over the next three years is \$100,000.00 (\$33,000.00 per year.) Please see below for order of implementation.

IMPLAMENTATION PLAN

<p style="text-align: center;">PHASE 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2013-2014 School year • Purchase for faculty • Total cost \$5,850.00 	<p style="text-align: center;">PHASE 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2014-2015 School year • Purchase for 6,7 and 8th grades(1:1) • Total cost \$45,200.00
<p style="text-align: center;">PHASE 3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2015-2016 School year • Purchase for 5th grade (1:1) • Purchase for the 4th grade (2:1) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Total cost \$22,600.00 	<p style="text-align: center;">PHASE 4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2016-2017 School year • Purchase K,1,2,3 (5:1) • Total cost \$11,800.00

APPLES



4 ANGELS



PLEDGE CARD

 FIRST NAME: _____

LAST NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

I WISH TO DONATE A ONE TIME DONATION OF \$ _____

I WISH TO MAKE A REOCCURING GIFT OF \$ _____ PER MONT FOR _____ MONTHS FOR A TOTAL OF\$ _____ . CHARGE MY CREDIT /DEBIT CARD

(NAME OF CARD) _____ CREDIT CARD NUMBER _____

cv# _____ FOR A TOTAL OF \$ _____

I WISH TO MAKE A MONTHLY CONTRIBUTION OF \$ _____ FOR A TOTAL OF _____ MONTHS. (GRAND TOTAL WILL BE EQUAL TO \$ _____.)

I WISH TO MAKE THIS DONATION IN THE NAME

OF: _____

I WISH TO REMAIN ANNAMOUS.

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: ___/___/___

PARTNERS IN OUR MISSION

<i>PARTNER</i>	<i>CONTRIBUTION AND SERVICE</i>
Grand Canyon University	Partnership for education, Science Fair sponsorship
AIM	Help with new computer lab
Ascension Catholic Church	School supplies, text books, financial support
Holy Child Society of Phoenix	Provides "Book Buddies" reading program
Katzen Classical Music	Support music program K-8
Theresian's in Transformation	Weekly tutoring, financial support
Xavier High School	New desks
Brophy College Prep.	Loyola Project, school supplies
University of Notre Dame Alumni	Summer "Smiles" Program
St. Patrick's Catholic Church	Weekly tutoring
Blessed Pope John XXIII	School Supplies
Aisling Foundation	2 Scholarships to St. Mary's, 4 scholarships to St. Matthew's, Kindles
Knights of Malta	Grant for religious articles and supplemental materials
Roney Foundation	New Text books
St. Theresa School	Classroom books and dual language materials
Moreno Family Trust	Financial Support
Salvation Army	Christmas family support
Phoenix Fire Dept.	Field Trips, Christmas family support
Evergreen Foundation	New desks
Murphy School Dist.	Student Meals
Society of St. Vincent De Paul	Student meals
Orman Family	Computer Lab remodel
J. Espericueta Family	Fire Alarm, Monitor System, Financial Support
De Rito Family Trust	Financial Support

St. Matthew School Management Report

ASSETS

Current Assets	\$16,353.27	
Total Current Assets		\$16,353.27
Fixed Assets	\$28,764.71	
Total Fixed Assets		\$28,764.71
Total Other Assets		\$ 480.49
Total Assets		\$46,331.61

Liabilities & Equity

Total Accounts Payable	\$14,326.59	
Total Other Current Liabilities (Diocese)	\$2,124,896.96	
Total Equity	-\$2,092,891.94	
Total liabilities & Equity		\$46,331.61

INCOME

Fund Raising Income	\$54,231.51	
Tuition Billed	\$868,245.00	
Contributions-Scholarship	\$854,336.22	
TOTAL INCOME		\$1,776,812.73

EXPENSES

Salaries & Benefits	\$784,157.75	
School Operation Expense	\$214,587.50	
Book & Teacher Supplies	\$ 8,643.92	
Financial Aid Distributed	\$891,338.92	
TOTAL EXPENSE		\$1,898,728.09
NET INCOME		(\$121,915.36)

EVENTS

Celebrate 2 Educate

This event raises needed monies for our school operations.

Our 4th was on Saturday May 4th 2013 with a "Cinco de Mayo" theme.



October Fest/ Fiesta

This event will help our school cover operational expenses.

Adopt a Student

We celebrate those who adopt our students, and the students who have achieved success thanks to their ability to continue at St. Matthew School at our annual Award ceremony and breakfast in January .

Our kick off for Adopt a Student will begin in late July. We hope will Adopt/ Re Adopt one of the "Angels". Below are listed levels of adoption. Donors of \$625.00 will receive copies of their reports cards and meet the student face to face.

\$5,000.00 Full student tuition

\$2,500.00 1/2 student tuition

\$ 1250.00 1/4 student tuition

\$625.00 1/8 student tuition

\$500.00 or less will go into general fund and distributed based on need.

