

HOW ONE WEST SIDE HIGH SCHOOL CAN SEND A HIGHER PERCENTAGE OF GRADUATES TO COLLEGE THAN

NEW TRIER WEST, HINSDALE CENTRAL, BARRINGTON, DEERFIELD, YORK, EVANSTON*...

FIRST YOU BEAT THE ODDS.

Providence-St. Mel sits by Garfield Park in the heart of Chicago's West Side. The crime rate in the area is terrifying. The infant mortality is devastating. Nearly one of two residents is jobless.

But over 90% of the students who graduate from Providence-St. Mel go to college. In the last two years students have been accepted at Northwestern, University of Chicago, Loyola, Yale, Princeton, Knox, Mundelein, Michigan, and Illinois, to name just a few.

Some kids come from three and four generations of welfare. Many are the first ones in their families to graduate from high school. Others have been the first to go to college.

EXPECT THE BEST.

Getting a good education is not something most people expect from an inner city high school. But principal Paul Adams is not most people. Others may expect less of less privileged kids. He expects only the best.

There are rewards. When a student achieves a straight "A" average, the school refunds the tuition for that quarter. The check is not made out to a parent—the parent didn't get the A's—it's made out to the student.

TO STAY IN SCHOOL, YOU HAVE TO STAY

IN LINE. The rules are strict and the penalties severe. Cut a class and you must pay a \$10 fine and bring in your parents to be reinstated. Cut another class and you're gone for good.

Smoke dope on school property and you're expelled. "Forget" your homework and spend three hours in study hall after school.

These rules and others like them are not constraints on serious students. They weed out the troublemakers. So there is no dope. There are no gangs. And the only painting on the walls is done by art students.

RESPECT IS A TWO-WAY STREET.

Once someone took money from a teacher's purse. In many high schools this happens almost every day. At Providence-St. Mel it was a major event. All activities were suspended. The students asked permission to call

a special assembly, and the president of the senior class talked about the theft.

Every student in the auditorium gave whatever money he or she could to reimburse the loss. The teacher got back more than was stolen. And the thief, when caught, proved to be no one from the school.

EDUCATION FIRST. ATHLETICS SECOND.

To participate in varsity sports at Providence-St. Mel, athletes must maintain a "C" average. Or they can't play. After graduation, Paul Adams keeps in touch with student athletes in college to make sure they're getting an education, and not just getting by.

PROVIDENCE-ST. MEL RECEIVES NO PUBLIC FUNDS.

In 1978 Providence-St. Mel almost had to close. The Chicago Archdiocese could no longer provide money. The high school received no federal, state, or local funding to keep it open. It still doesn't.

But a miracle happened. People heard about the school. Thomas Distributing Inc., a prominent South Side beer distributor, donated \$20,000. Banker's Life and Casualty Company pledged \$25,000. An anonymous donor offered land which sold for \$42,000. Recently the MacArthur Foundation awarded the school a major grant.

But the bulk of support has come from interested, hardworking people all over the country. A woman in California is paying the tuition for nine students. A student at Indiana University is providing a full scholarship for another.

Community support has been very gratifying. Local neighbors and merchants in Garfield Park got together and raised \$1500 for the school last spring.

ENROLLMENT IN THE HIGH SCHOOL IS

UP 47%. A junior high has been added. A \$62,000 roof repair job is complete. But many projects are still waiting.

The library needs books. It also needs money for a librarian. There is plastering, painting, and varnishing to be done:

\$3350 would fix up a classroom.

\$3500 would put a washroom in working order.

\$9000 would pay for a stairwell.

\$12,000 would do a corridor.

\$54,000 would convert the heating system.

THERE ARE MANY WAYS YOU CAN HELP.

Consider investing in a student with a full or partial scholarship. Contribute to the building fund; every single penny will be put to good use. Or, if you're in a position to do something on a larger scale, pay a teacher's salary for a year or two.

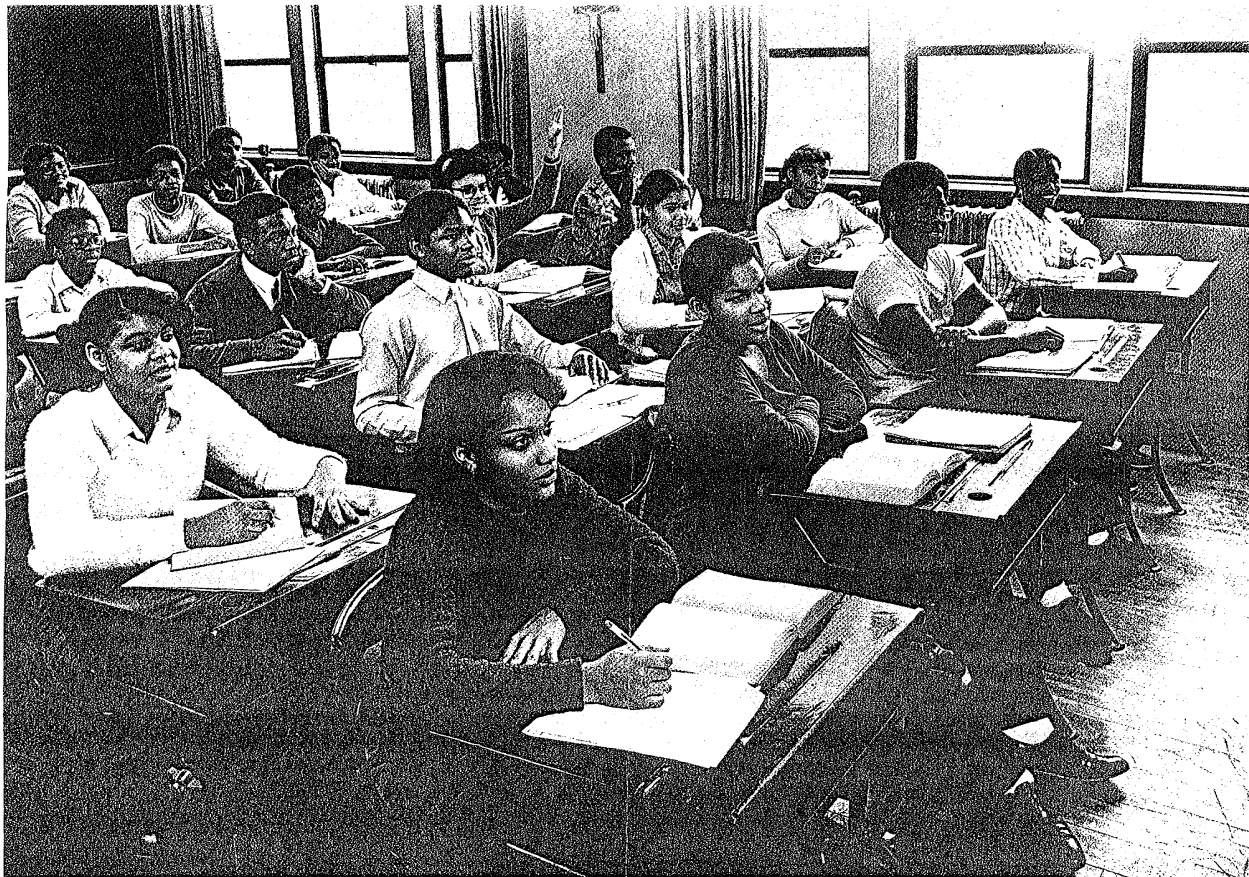
Any amount, for any of these needs, will make a difference.

For our part, we promise that every student who comes to Providence-St. Mel can get a good education, as long as we keep getting help from you.

Checks should be made payable to: Providence-St. Mel High School, Inc., 119 S. Central Park, Chicago, Illinois 60624 (312) 722-4600 or 826-4668. State of Illinois Tax Exempt No. 36633 Federal Tax Exempt No. 36-2977187

PROVIDENCE-ST. MEL THE HARD WORK HIGH SCHOOL

*Figures available upon request.



HOW ONE WEST SIDE HIGH SCHOOL CAN SEND A HIGHER PERCENTAGE OF GRADUATES TO COLLEGE THAN

NEW TRIER WEST, HINSDALE CENTRAL, BARRINGTON, DEERFIELD, YORK, EVANSTON*...

FIRST YOU BEAT THE ODDS.

Providence-St. Mel sits by Garfield Park in the heart of Chicago's West Side. The crime rate in the area is terrifying. The infant mortality is devastating. Nearly one of two residents is jobless.

But over 90% of the students who graduate from Providence-St. Mel go to college. In the last two years students have been accepted at Northwestern, University of Chicago, Loyola, Yale, Princeton, Knox, Mundelein, Michigan, and Illinois, to name just a few.

Some kids come from three and four generations of welfare. Many are the first ones in their families to graduate from high school. Others have been the first to go to college.

EXPECT THE BEST.

Getting a good education is not something most people expect from an inner city high school. But principal Paul Adams is not most people. Others may expect less of less privileged kids. He expects only the best.

There are rewards. When a student achieves a straight "A" average, the school refunds the tuition for that quarter. The check is not made out to a parent—the parent didn't get the A's—it's made out to the student.

TO STAY IN SCHOOL, YOU HAVE TO STAY

IN LINE. The rules are strict and the penalties severe. Cut a class and you must pay a \$10 fine and bring in your parents to be reinstated. Cut another class and you're gone for good.

Smoke dope on school property and you're expelled. "Forget" your homework and spend three hours in study hall after school.

These rules and others like them are not constraints on serious students. They weed out the troublemakers. So there is no dope. There are no gangs. And the only painting on the walls is done by art students.

RESPECT IS A TWO-WAY STREET.

Once someone took money from a teacher's purse. In many high schools this happens almost every day. At Providence-St. Mel it was a major event. All activities were suspended. The students asked permission to call

a special assembly, and the president of the senior class talked about the theft.

Every student in the auditorium gave whatever money he or she could to reimburse the loss. The teacher got back more than was stolen. And the thief, when caught, proved to be no one from the school.

EDUCATION FIRST. ATHLETICS SECOND.

To participate in varsity sports at Providence-St. Mel, athletes must maintain a "C" average. Or they can't play. After graduation, Paul Adams keeps in touch with student athletes in college to make sure they're getting an education, and not just getting by.

PROVIDENCE-ST. MEL RECEIVES NO PUBLIC FUNDS.

In 1978 Providence-St. Mel almost had to close. The Chicago Archdiocese could no longer provide money. The high school received no federal, state, or local funding to keep it open. It still doesn't.

But a miracle happened. People heard about the school. Thomas Distributing Inc., a prominent South Side beer distributor, donated \$20,000. Banker's Life and Casualty Company pledged \$25,000. An anonymous donor offered land which sold for \$42,000. Recently the MacArthur Foundation awarded the school a major grant.

But the bulk of support has come from interested, hardworking people all over the country. A woman in California is paying the tuition for nine students. A student at Indiana University is providing a full scholarship for another.

Community support has been very gratifying. Local neighbors and merchants in Garfield Park got together and raised \$1500 for the school last spring.

ENROLLMENT IN THE HIGH SCHOOL IS

UP 47%. A junior high has been added. A \$62,000 roof repair job is complete. But many projects are still waiting.

The library needs books. It also needs money for a librarian. There is plastering, painting, and varnishing to be done:

\$3350 would fix up a classroom.

\$3500 would put a washroom in working order.

\$9000 would pay for a stairwell.

\$12,000 would do a corridor.

\$54,000 would convert the heating system.

THERE ARE MANY WAYS YOU CAN HELP.

Consider investing in a student with a full or partial scholarship. Contribute to the building fund; every single penny will be put to good use. Or, if you're in a position to do something on a larger scale, pay a teacher's salary for a year or two.

Any amount, for any of these needs, will make a difference.

For our part, we promise that every student who comes to Providence-St. Mel can get a good education, as long as we keep getting help from you.

Checks should be made payable to: Providence-St. Mel High School, Inc., 119 S. Central Park, Chicago, Illinois 60624 (312) 722-4600 or 826-4668. State of Illinois Tax Exempt No. 36633 Federal Tax Exempt No. 36-2977187

PROVIDENCE-ST. MEL THE HARD WORK HIGH SCHOOL

*Figures available upon request.

