



ST. THOMAS MORE SCHOOL

8435 Calumet Avenue • Munster, Indiana 46321-2595
Phone: (219) 836-9151 • Fax: (219) 836-0982

www.stm-school.com

e-mail: schooloffice@stm-school.com

Dear Parents:

As you have probably already heard, Dr. Tony Bennett, State of Indiana Superintendent of Instruction, has informed **all** accredited schools in the State of Indiana that half days of instruction will not be permitted beginning with the 2009-2010 school year.

In previous years, Indiana schools were permitted to build six half days into their school calendar for mandatory Professional Development Days for teachers. It is required that Indiana schools continue to provide Professional Development, data analysis and collaboration activities for teachers. It is imperative for teachers/staff to have these opportunities to ensure quality instruction.

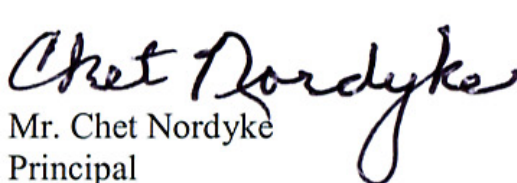
At St. Thomas More School, approximately 60% - 65% of our students ride the School Town of Munster buses to and from school each day. As a result, St. Thomas More School will join the School Town of Munster in a change of our starting time (**Thursdays only**) beginning in August 2009. In order to ensure that our children have the opportunity to celebrate their faith, Masses on **Thursdays** will be celebrated at **9:00 A.M.** instead of 8:30 A.M.

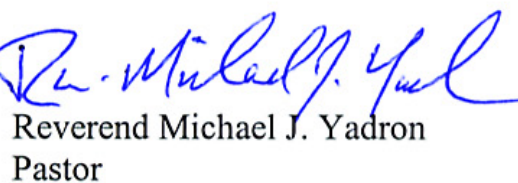
St. Thomas More, Wilbur Wright Middle School, Eads Elementary, Elliot Elementary and Frank Hammond Elementary will implement a "Delayed Start" for the 2009-2010 school year. The "Delayed Start" means that the school bus will pick your child up **30 minutes later than their current scheduled pick-up time**. So, next year, **on every Thursday**, St. Thomas More will begin classes at **8:40 A.M.** This "Delayed Start" will allow our School Accreditation Strategic Plan and school improvement initiatives the time to be implemented.

We fully understand that for some families this Thursday delayed start will possibly create a difficulty. We do want everyone to know that **Kid's Time** will be available, as it always is, beginning at 7:00 AM for \$1.00 per hour, per child.

Speaking for all of us at St. Thomas More School, we appreciate your cooperation as we walk together through our new "**Delayed Start Thursday**".

To Jesus through Mary,


Mr. Chet Nordyke
Principal


Reverend Michael J. Yadron
Pastor