

Dear Brother Knights,

It is with great excitement that I announce one of the most worthwhile endeavors we have taken on. Effective with the coming year, we are establishing the "Past Grand Knights, Council 745 Scholarship" for incoming freshman to Bishop McNamara High School.

There are thousands of Catholic children in this area, and only a lucky few are able to afford the high cost of a Catholic education. As these children grow up, they become the future leaders we will look to. The opportunity to attend should not be withheld when means is the only thing standing in their way. Fortunately, there are other organizations and even individuals which sponsor many of these young men and women, either in whole, or in part.

It is time that our great organization step up and help with this need. It is our intent to provide a \$1000 scholarship to each of two incoming freshman. These scholarships will only be available to the sons, daughters, and other immediate family of our Council 745 members. How many of us are graduates of Bishop McNamara? How many of us really appreciate what it meant to attend such a fine school? Even if you didn't, you surely recognize the value of this education.

As with any great endeavor, it comes with a price. The council will be conducting various fundraisers in the coming years, but it is our hope to use calendar year 2008 as the inaugural year for the scholarship. In order to do that, we are going to need your help. We are asking everyone to make a contribution to the initial fund. Whether you can offer \$5 or \$500, any and every bit will help. You can either send in your donation through the mail or stop by the business office and make your contribution.

Thanks in advance for your help. Remember, these young men also represent the future of our great council. Over 104 years old and still going strong!

Gentlemen,

The proposal before you is:

“To establish a scholarship for incoming freshman to Bishop McNamara High School. This scholarship is to be in the amount of \$1000, and will be given to two deserving individuals. These individuals will be selected by a review committee, to ensure the individuals meet the established criteria and are the best candidates.”

The committee shall be composed of 5 individuals. They are: Grand Knight, Financial Secretary, 3 members at large appointed by the Grand Knight. The appointed members shall serve on the committee for a period of 5 years. When vacancies occur, the Grand Knight shall designate alternate member to fulfill any remaining obligation to the 5 year term.

The following criteria shall serve as the minimum standards:

- Catholic
- Knights of Columbus council #745 member
- Incoming freshman
- Placement test results
- Panel review

This criteria will be used to select the best candidates from all submitted. The panels' decision will be final.

The funds necessary to establish the scholarship will come from various fundraisers that the selection panel will be required to develop and pose to the council for further consideration. It is incumbent upon the committee to ensure the longevity of the fund by long term planning and consideration given to fundraising methods.

This proposal also seeks any funds this council sees as appropriate as the initial contribution which will formally establish the aforementioned scholarship.