Archdiocese of Seattle
CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

June 2017

Dear Principals,

As you know, this year we convened a committee that conducted a thorough review of various Student Information Systems. The committee developed a rubric of essential criteria and met several times over the course of the year to evaluate seven systems with this rubric. The criteria examined included academic features/ gradebook, administrative features, data/ reporting capabilities, IT capabilities, ease of use, professional development, and cost. The outcome of this work is the recommendation of Alma Student Information System. We are excited about the ways in which we believe Alma will help schools and teachers work efficiently. We are also confident that the rates which Alma has offered us will represent significant cost savings for many schools that are currently using other products ($10 per student annual license fee, plus $3 per student fee during the implementation year).

Recognizing the impact that changing a Student Information System has on school communities, we have decided to pilot Alma during the course of the 2017- 2018 school year. Seven schools that represent different regions, enrollments, and student populations will implement the product this fall. We will work closely with these schools to monitor the success and effectiveness of the Alma solution. After doing so, we will determine whether or not we would like to move forward with Alma as an Archdiocese. We anticipate that we will make this decision by April of 2018. Should we choose to move forward with Alma, there will be a three year implementation window between 2018 and 2021.

We will keep you updated on the progress of next year's pilot as we continue our decision-making process. In the meantime, if you have any questions or would like more information about Alma's capabilities, please feel free to reach out to Kaitlyn O'Leary directly.

Thanks,

Kristin Dixon

Superintendent

Kaitlyn O'Leary

Assistant Superintendent

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Resources for Educators

www.catholicschoolsww.org

Resources for Parents

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