

Press Release

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Lease signed for St. Ann's Academy

St. Ann's Academy is currently accepting student registrations for the 2012-2013 school year. Organizers have secured a downtown Hornell building and have signed a lease that will allow the space to be freshened up prior to the first day of class.

The Academy will provide a faith based education modeled after St. Ann School, but will be financially independent of the local Catholic parish, Our Lady of the Valley. Pastor Fr. Peter Anglaere has explained in church that, although the parish is not able to provide financial support to the school, he is supportive of the group's efforts. He has also said that he is looking forward to being involved with the spiritual growth of the youngsters.

As in past years, children of all faiths will be welcome. The new school will offer pre-k for 3 and 4 year olds as well as kindergarten through 4th grade.

Leaders of the School Exploratory Group have signed a lease on a building at 138 Main Street at the corner of Church Street. The school will operate out of the first floor, with the main entrance facing Main St. "Having a lease in hand means we are committed to making the school a success", said Randy Regan, one of the organizers. The group has been in touch with Jeff Johnson, the City Codes Enforcement Official and will be making some upgrades that are necessary to insure that classrooms meet building codes that pertain to school buildings.

"Next we'll have to work on fund-raising. We will need a lot of community support but from what we have seen so far, there is a strong commitment from people who want to see St. Ann's tradition continue well into the future. With a totally new management team in place, we are confident that we can operate with a balanced budget while still providing the best education for the children." Parents will pay tuition as they have in the past but will also be expected to be active in fundraising efforts throughout the year. "We plan to all work together so these events are fun for everyone involved, and not be a burden on anyone. For instance, we will be at Gus Macker selling burgers and drinks, joining this fun YMCA event."

An informational meeting is planned for the near future. Parents will be able to ask organizers any questions they may have about the school. The school will follow the Hornell City School District's calendar.

Student registration packets and more information can be found at www.SAAcademy.org or by calling Randy Regan at (607) 794-2532.