

Maggie Beck

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English 8 ( )

8<sup>th</sup> Grade Testimonials

*Ring ring ring!* On my first day of eighth grade at St. Monica School, the bell chimed, just like any other school day. Trudging down the hall with my bursting backpack, teachers beamed and welcomed me back, just like any other school day. I organized my locker with its slightly slanted mirror and array of mints, just like any other school day. But I knew, just as all of my classmates knew, that this was not just another school day; this day was our last first day at the school that has fostered our spirits and minds for ten years. To sum up my school, the most worthy word is *unchanging*. For the past nine years, not much has changed; yes, each year we received new teachers, classrooms, and knowledge, but our school's teachings have remained untouched.

Throughout my grade school experience, I have learned everything from perseverance, when I practiced my somersault over and over for the K – 5 circus; to the love of reading from Mrs. Dooley's reading class, which still brings back memories. Plus, I learned respect from making friends; and how to trust in the Lord, when we participated in the ropes course in 6<sup>th</sup> grade, which was terrifying. The teachers' love for their students and for teaching has not changed either, and neither has their fun teaching styles. All of the faculty of St. Monica will agree that our school is at its best exactly the way it is. So, as my classmates and I enter into the strange milieu of high school and endure many new experiences and changes, we will all lovingly remember our school's ethic of learning, living, and loving through Jesus, and the fact that it will never change.