

St. Peter Claver School  
375 Oxford Street North  
St. Paul, MN 55104

May 2, 2011

To all the inspiring students and wonderful teachers and staff of St. Peter Claver School,

I am writing to you today to say thank you for the great neighborhood clean up you did last week. Wow! Thank you!!

The weather was really nice and while on a break from work I took a stroll down Lexington Avenue. Soon after I began walking I saw about 6 or 8 students and 2 teachers coming my way, and it looked like you were all picking up trash. I couldn't believe my eyes. Were an excited group of young people and their leaders helping to keep our neighborhood looking nice?

Yes you all were! Everyone had a bag and you all were so cheerful and kind when I asked, "Where are you from?"

Almost in unison I heard, "We're from St. Peter Claver." The group I met was proud when they said it, and they and the whole school should be. You gave a great gift to our neighborhood. I thanked that group for the hard work and we went our separate directions.

A while later I saw more students, teachers and staff picking up trash; even crossing Lexington to pick up trash on Central Avenue. At that point I thought to myself, as soon as I am finished working I am going to get in on that great trash ramble. And I did. You all inspired me to also care about the great neighborhood we live, work and go to school in.

As a small tribute to the great work you did last week I tried my best to get the corner of Lexington and St. Anthony back in respectable shape. I filled a few bags of trash and swept up the cigarette butts in the street. When I was finished I went and got a couple packets of flower seeds, and planted them near that corner. After we get a little more rain I hope you will see the "thank you" come into bloom.

Thank you again for being so kind and considerate to me, and to our neighborhood. I hope you will head out again this year, and the school years to follow, in an effort to keep everything looking the way we all want it to be. Please be in touch if I can help the school in any way, or if you need help on the next great trash ramble.

Sincerely,



Joshua Beran

cc: Frogtown Neighborhood Association  
Summit-University Planning Council