



ST. JOSEPH'S
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

NEWS & NOTES

Striving to form the MINDS, HEARTS, and SOULS of its students in the likeness of Christ.

St. Joseph's School Prayer

Glorious Saint Joseph, spouse of the Immaculate Virgin and Foster-Father of Jesus Christ; obtain for me and all the members of my family, a pure, humble, and charitable mind, and perfect resignation to the Divine Will. Be my guide and model throughout life that I may merit to die as you did in the arms of Jesus and Mary. Help us, Saint Joseph, in our earthly strife, to fulfill our responsibilities and ever to lead a pure and sinless life. Amen.

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From the Headmaster

Welcome to the 2021-2022 School Year!

I hope your family is having a wonderful summer. While it's been nice to have some down time this summer, especially after a school year so significantly impacted by COVID-19 worries and restrictions, we are eager to get the new school year underway. We are approaching this year with a strong desire to reset and restore priorities and activities we had to set aside during the pandemic, most especially community events that are so central to the school's mission including the restoration of our weekly all-school Masses. If the central goal for last year was simply to keep students in the building for in-person education, the priority this year is to reclaim and refresh all those things that sets St. Joseph's apart as a Catholic school.

Speaking of COVID-19 protocols and restrictions, we expect a very different year ahead of us. Broadly speaking, we will not be requiring all students and teachers to wear masks this year in most circumstances during the school day. There may be times when we ask them to put them on in special circumstances. We will require all students to have a mask with them during the school day. We will, of course, continue to monitor the situation in the Upstate and surrounding areas with respect to the virus and its variants and will adjust as needed. Additionally, the cafeteria will resume its normal services and offerings. Look for an email from the school in the coming weeks spelling out more details of the school's COVID-19 protocols and contact tracing for this year.

But enough of that and back to the central business of educating and forming your students in the likeness of Christ. To help us do that we have hired a truly outstanding "class" of teachers who will be joining our committed veteran SJCS teachers this year. Over the years, we have hired teachers who have left a lasting impact on their students because of their excellence in the classroom and personal engagement with their students. Based on what we've heard from their previous employers, I am certain the women and men joining our staff this year will prove to be just this type of teacher. I'm eager for you to meet them. Look for profile pieces on the school's website and social media in the coming weeks.

As you read this newsletter, we are putting the final pieces together for faculty, staff, and student orientation and the new school year. Look for more details about all of this in a separate email in the coming days. Enjoy the rest of summer and we'll see you in person in a few weeks.

In Christ,
Keith F. Kiser
Headmaster

Things You Need To Know

Used Uniform Sale, July 29

The Used Uniform Sale will be Thursday, July 29 from Noon-7:00 PM in the Gym. If you would like to donate any gently used uniform pieces to be used in the next sale, please drop them off at the front desk before July 29.

All Sports Parent Meeting, July 29

If you have a son or daughter who plans to play on any of our sports teams during the 2021-2022 school year, you must attend the mandatory parent meeting on Thursday, July 29 at 7:00 PM in the school's JPII Center. If you will be out of town, we will provide this information via a recorded session.

Pep Band Pre-Season Camp, August 2-6

- All band students, with at least one year of playing experience at SJCS, who are interested in playing for Pep Band, are invited to attend pre-season band camp. We have openings for all instruments!
- The camp will be held at SJCS on August 2-6, from 9:00-11:30 AM, with a catered lunch on the last day. The cost for pre-season is \$40 and includes a t-shirt, lunch, and sheet music. This is the perfect way to get your "playing chops" back in shape for the start of school and to be prepared to play at the Varsity home football games in the fall. The "Band of Knights" Pep Band has established a tradition of spirit and school pride as they cheer on the team from the stands on Friday nights.
- When the school year begins, Pep Band will rehearse on Wednesday afternoons from 1:30-3:00 PM in order to prepare for playing at several of the Friday night home football games and at the Fall Pep Rally. Additionally, Pep Band can be taken for 1/2 HS credit for rising ninth grade and above with permission. Questions? Contact SJCS Band Director, [Marjorie Malphrus](#).

New High School Student Math/World Language Placement Testing, August 3

Most new high school students completed our placement testing in May. However, if your child is new to our high school for the 2021-2022 school year and enrolled after May 1, he/she may still need to complete Math and/or World Language placement testing. A make-up date has been set for Tuesday, August 3, 2021 and more information about the testing was communicated in your child's acceptance packet. Questions? Contact [Jenny Starks](#) in the Admissions Office.

College Application Workshop for Seniors, August 3-4

The College Counseling Office will be conducting a free College Application Workshop on August 3 & 4 from 12:30-2:30PM in the Meeting Room/Achievement Center. We will be focusing on the Common Application and school specific applications. Please bring your laptop or electronic device that has internet capability as we will be accessing and completing the actual college application forms during the workshop. Please sign up for this event using the registration link that was sent to you in July.

Third Annual SJCS Athletic Department Golf Tournament, August 6

Save the date for the third annual SJCS Athletic Department Golf Tournament at The Preserve at Verdae Golf Course on August 6. The Athletic Department will be hosting this fundraiser for all sports teams. These funds will be used to support all the teams that make up St. Joseph's athletics. This has replaced many of the individual fundraisers that each team has done in the past. We strongly encourage the whole St. Joseph's Community to participate in the golf tournament. All alumni, families, and friends are welcome!

Faculty/Staff Orientation, August 9-13

Faculty/Staff Orientation begins August 9 and continues intermittently through August 13. If you need to communicate with us during this week, please send an email to the person with whom you need to speak. Thank you for your patience during this important time of faculty/staff development.

24 Hour Theatre Extravaganza & Student-produced films, August 13-14

- What better way to end the summer and kick off the school year than with a Theatre Extravaganza? Students, faculty, staff, parents, and alumni have the opportunity to create a show from the ground up, only limited by time and their imagination! Anyone in the SJCS school community (rising 8th grader and older) can be involved in this event, beginning at 6:00 PM on Friday, August 13. **The event will culminate with a performance of these plays at 7:00 PM on Saturday, August 14.**
- Those interested in being a part of this event can sign up for a role as a writer, actor, stage manager, crew member, or director. The number of participants may be limited based on response; up to five plays will be produced as a part of the 24-Hour Theatre Extravaganza.
- Any member of the SJCS school community is also invited to produce and submit short films to be showcased between performances at this event. **The deadline for registering to participate in the 24 Hour Theatre Extravaganza is Saturday, August 7 and the deadline for submitting student-produced films is Monday, August 9.**

Visit the links below for more information and contact [Teresa McGrath](#) with any questions to be a parent volunteer.

Click below for more details regarding participation in this event:

- [List of role descriptions and timeline of the event](#)
- To sign up to be a part of the event: [Register Here](#) (register by August 7)
- Guidelines for student-produced films: [Short Film Entry Information](#) (due August 9)

24 Hour Theatre Extravaganza Performances, August 14

- General admission tickets can be purchased in advance [HERE](#) or at the door for \$5 per person. All tickets are general admission and the doors will open at 6:30PM. Additionally, the Fine Arts Department decals and Jubilate Arts Guild memberships will be available for purchase prior to the show.
- Writers of the event will be required to utilize certain elements in their scripts based on a survey found [HERE](#). Be sure to participate in the vote by Thursday, August 12 to help determine which elements will be required and then join us at the show on Saturday, August 14 to see which elements were included.

New Student Orientation, Monday, August 16

All Students Grades 6 & 9 and All **New** Students in Grades 7, 8, 10, 11, & 12: All parents are required to accompany their child on Monday, August 16 for New Student Orientation. Orientation for all students Grades 6 & 9 will run from 8:30-11:00 AM. Orientation for all new students in Grades 7, 8, 10, 11, & 12 will run from 12:30-2:00 PM. Current students will be on hand in the parking lot when you arrive to assist in carrying things to your locker and to introduce you to your Household Dean. **Students ARE required to wear their casual uniforms.** In addition to meeting your teachers and walking your schedules, students and parents will be able to drop off required forms. A detailed email will be sent in early August.

Optional Returning Student Orientation, Monday, August 16

All returning students in grades 7-8-10-11-12 are welcome to campus on Monday, August 16 between 2:00-3:30 PM to set up their lockers and turn in required forms. Students must enter and exit the school through the Front Office.

Senior Sunrise, August 17

Seniors are asked to be at the school at 6:30 AM on August 17 for Senior Sunrise. Seniors will watch the sunrise on the first day of their senior year. Free breakfast will be served. More details will be sent to seniors via email.

High School Course Add/Drop Period, August 16-27

Students may request schedule changes during the Add/Drop period August 16-27. BEFORE requesting any schedule change, students and parents should review the Schedule Change Policies in the 2021-2022 High School Course Catalog. Add/Drop forms will be available in the College Counseling Office, Room B208.

Schedule & Uniform Notes for August 17-20

Tuesday, August 17 will be the first full day of classes. The day will run on a Monday/Tuesday/Friday bell schedule and students should wear their casual uniforms. Wednesday, August 18 will be the first all-school Mass. All students should be in dress uniform. Thursday, August 19 is a normal Thursday schedule and students may wear their casual uniform. Friday, August 20 is Yearbook Picture Day; all students must be in dress uniform.

All-School Welcome Back Potluck, August 20

All families are invited to attend the All-School Welcome Back Potluck and cheer on our SJCS Knights in the first home football game, on Friday, August 20 from 5:30-7:00 PM on the softball field. Please RSVP [HERE](#). An RSVP isn't necessary, but helpful for planning purposes.

SJCS Parent Leader Groups will be providing FREE hot dogs, condiments, plates, flatware, and napkins. There is no cost to attend, though we ask that you bring, if your last name begins with:

- A-B: Pack of Individual Bags of Chips
- C-G: Dessert
- H-R: Side Dish
- S-Z: Case of Bottled Water

HS Welcome Back Social, August 21

High school students are invited to the Welcome Back Social on Saturday, August 21. More details will be sent to high school students via email.

High School Fall Play Auditions, August 24-26

Auditions for the High School Fall Play are currently scheduled to be held August 24-25, with Callbacks on August 26. These auditions are open to all High School students. More information will be available in August. Questions? Contact Fine Arts Director, [Teresa McGrath](#).

Red Door Ceremony, August 25

All ninth-grade students and new high school students will take part in the Red Door Ceremony prior to Mass on Wednesday, August 25 beginning at 10:23 AM. Parents are encouraged to attend the ceremony and stay for Mass. Parents will be allowed to enter the JPII Center at 10:00 AM.

- *A Brief History: St Joseph's opened its doors in August 1993 and the first 13 high school students entered the school through a red door which, at the time, was the entrance to a little house beside St. Michael's Lutheran Church on Augusta Road. Although the house was subsequently demolished, the red door was donated to SJCS and placed on the school's current campus at the entrance to our chapel, the center of the school. During the school's 15th anniversary celebration in March 2008, the door was unveiled and St. Joseph's began a new tradition. Beginning with the Class of 2008, all graduating seniors now process out through this door as a symbol of their farewell to St Joseph's, marking not only an end but a new beginning. All new high school students are formally welcomed into the school community each August by processing in through the red door, just as this door welcomed the first 13 high school students in 1993.*

Sophomore Class Retreat, August 28-29

All members of the sophomore class are asked to attend the Sophomore Class Retreat on August 28 & 29. The retreat will take place at a local area retreat center (TBD) and will be led by SJCS Theology Teacher and Campus Minister Gabe Lewis along with a team of teachers and upperclass leaders. The retreat will begin around 10:00 AM on Saturday and wrap up around 4:00 PM on Sunday. Sunday Mass will be part of the schedule. More information will be sent to students and parents by email. Questions? Contact [Gabe Lewis](#).

France & Spain Trip Interest Meeting, August 31

An interest meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 31 at 7:00 PM for anyone interested in exploring the cultures of France and Spain from June 2-11, 2022. The exciting itinerary leads us from Paris to Madrid, with the Mediterranean Coast in between. From the Arc de Triomphe, to La Sainte-Chapelle, to the Eiffel Tower, to a scenic boat ride along the Seine river, we will visit the most famous landmarks in Paris. From Paris, we will head south via fast train to Avignon and the picturesque Provence region where we will ride horses through the Camargue and a tour of the Pont du Gard, a 161-foot Roman aqueduct in nearly perfect condition. We will continue along the Mediterranean Coast to Barcelona, exploring all the major sites, including Gaudi's masterpiece, the still-unfinished Sagrada Familia. In Madrid, we will see the Plaza de España, the majestic Alcalá Gate, the famous bullring Las Ventas, and the impressive Prado museum. We will even learn flamenco from a professional dancer. If you are interested in providing this opportunity for your child, contact [Madame McCoy](#) or visit the tripsite [HERE](#).

Labor Day, September 6

There will be no classes. The school and school offices will be closed.

Senior & Parents Guidance Meeting, September 9

Our annual meeting for seniors and their parents will be held on Thursday, September 9 at 7:00 PM in the JP II Center. The meeting will last approximately an hour. At least one parent and their senior student must be in attendance for this informative meeting. Tony Pace, Southeast Regional Director of Admissions at Lafayette College, will be here to present.

High School Homecoming Dance, September 25

The SJCS Homecoming Dance will take place on September 25 from 8:00-11:00 PM (location TBD). This dance is open to all SJCS high school students. More details will be sent to high school students via email. Questions? Contact SJCS Activities Director, [Keitt Brace](#).

All-Parent Coffee, September 29

Immediately following morning drop-off, all SJCS parents are welcomed and encouraged to come onto campus for coffee, a light breakfast, and fellowship until 8:00 AM. From 8:00-9:00 AM, Headmaster Keith Kiser, other School Administrators, and a few Parent Volunteer Leaders will share information about the new school year, talk about opportunities for involvement, and be available to answer your questions. This is a great opportunity to hear from and speak with school officials and parent leaders in a small, informal setting. Mark your calendar! An RSVP is not necessary but will help us plan accordingly. Click [HERE](#) to RSVP.

Campus Ministry & GS "Beginning Day", October 2

All 10th-12th graders are invited to join the St. Joseph's GS group at the Campus Ministry Beginning Day on Saturday, October 2. It's a day to discover how friendship with others and with God makes it possible to not just "survive" high school, but to live it with meaning. More information will be sent out in September by Theology Teacher and Campus Minister [Gabe Lewis](#).

Lunch Coverage Needed for the Receptionist

SJCS is in need of volunteer lunch coverage for the School Receptionist, Dawn Hawkins. Basic computer and phone skills are needed. Confidentiality and professionalism are a must. If you would like to volunteer for this position, please contact the Assistant to the Headmaster, [Jennifer Church](#).

Want to Travel? Student Travel Offerings

It's time to travel again! International trips are planned for the 2021-2022 school year and summer.

- England and Scotland 2022: Come travel with Mrs. Neighbors and Mrs. Carr to England and Scotland during Spring Break of 2022. High tea in an English manor house, Edinburgh Castle, boat tour on Loch Ness to look for Nessie, and a train trip into Scotland are all included. Click [HERE](#) to see the itinerary, pricing, payment plans, and to sign up! Questions? Contact [Mrs. Carr](#).
- Japan 2022: If you are interested in experiencing an amazing culture, immersing yourself in a very different history, and trying new and exciting foods and activities, come travel with us to Japan from June 23-July

2, 2022. Click [HERE](#) to see the itinerary, sign up, set up a payment plan, and review all the activities. Questions? Contact [Mrs. Carr](#).

Important Dates for 2021-2022

Please click [HERE](#) to view the Important Dates for 2021-2022 that were posted to the SJCS website.

Summer Reading

All students in all grades have summer reading assignments. The Middle School Summer Reading List can be found [HERE](#). The High School Summer Reading List can be found [HERE](#).

School Supplies

The middle school supplies lists can be found [HERE](#) on the school website. Middle school students should arrive the first full day of classes with their book bag, textbooks, and all supplies. There is no published list of high school supplies. High school students should plan to arrive the first day of classes with their book bag, textbooks, paper, a binder or notebook for each class, and a supply of pens and pencils. If particular supplies are needed for their classes, teachers will furnish students with that list after school begins.

Middle School Schedules

Middle school scheduling is still in process. Please disregard any middle school schedule information you may see on the FACTS Family Portal before school begins. Students will receive their finalized schedules on the first day of school. Eighth grade parents will be contacted by Mrs. Broering via email by the end of July confirming their world language placement, however, class rotations could possibly change up until the first day of school. Middle school scheduling questions may be directed to [Melissa Broering](#).

Student Parking Forms

All sophomores, juniors, and seniors planning to drive to school should fill out the Parking Permit Application for Students [HERE](#). Keep in mind that a student's driver's license, registration, and insurance must be submitted in order to receive a parking pass. All forms should be emailed to [SJCS Student Parking](#). To receive a pass on the first day of school, this form must be submitted by 4:00 PM on August 9. Students who have completed an application will receive an email with information regarding picking up their passes. Once school starts, passes will be issued on a rolling basis.

Student ID Cards

All students are required to wear their ID cards at all times. The school provides students with their first lanyard.

Lands' End Uniform Samples in the Front Office

Lands' End is the sole uniform provider for SJCS. Any items purchased from previous uniform suppliers (eg Mills) may be worn indefinitely, but any new items must be purchased from Lands' End. Since they are a web-based store, they have provided us with a generous sample of clothes for students to try on before making online purchases. It is a great way for students to get a feel for the clothes fit and what size to order. Contact [Jenny Starks](#) to schedule a time to come in.

From the Middle School Director

This summer certainly was a different experience from the Pandemic Summer of 2020. At this time last year, a tape measure was my best friend. We measured, we moved, we installed, we searched (for any available bit of plexiglass, barrier, desks), we ordered ... all in an effort to ensure in-person learning. We did the best we could with the information we had available - information that seemed to change on a daily basis. I can't imagine that we could or would have done it any other way.

I met a friend for coffee a few days ago. When she asked how my summer was going, I told her I felt like I might be experiencing some post-traumatic stress from the past year. I know I have felt this way at times before, when pure adrenaline and willpower sustain you. And when the situation is over, there is great relief, but remnants of

the stress remain. That can lead to another situation - a circumstance that fosters a higher level of fear and more anxiety than might be called for.

I subscribe to a daily devotion titled, "Blessed is She." Sometimes I read them, and sometimes I don't. Honestly, it's usually the title that inspires me to open the email or not. Today's devotion, written by Dr. MaryRuth Hackett, was captioned, "Jesus Said it Three Times." I was curious. And I'm really glad I opened that email. In the gospel for the day, Matthew 10: 24-33, Jesus tells us three times, "Do not be afraid." As Dr. Hackett reflects in her writing, if Jesus says something once, we should listen. If He says it three times, we are foolish not to take it seriously!

While living through a pandemic might have our nervous system in overdrive, we have some things at our disposal to counteract any negative effects. And instead of trying to paraphrase Dr. MaryRuth Hackett's response to the passage from Matthew, I am going to share it with you ...

"Yet we are children of God. He knows the number of the hairs on our heads. If we remain in Him, and continue to live boldly for Him despite our fear, He will shine a light in the darkness. How do we do remain in Him? Stay obedient to His commands. Continue to strive for truth dismissing the lies we hear and acting with courage to confirm love. Read Scripture. Draw closer to Him in prayer, adding to rather than subtracting from our time in relationship with the Lord. Build good and holy friendships with people who affirm the goodness in this world. Surrender everything else to the Lord with confidence."

While this coming year will most likely be full of more surprises, I can tell you that you shouldn't be surprised with our community's response to whatever lies ahead. Be assured that St. Joseph's is committed to being a school that helps you and your family **Remain in Him**. As the summer days come to a close, and the academic year draws near, please continue to pray for all of us in this community, that we will faithfully and courageously uphold our mission of forming young hearts, minds, and souls in the likeness of Christ.

"Remain in Him" reflection written by @dr.maryruthhackett for *Blessed is She*. Dr. Hackett is a writer, blogger and the host of *Parenting Smarts* podcast.

From the High School Director

"But I tell you..." As some of you know, I used to coach and judge college debate. One of the best speakers I ever heard was a competitor from Oxford who used the same phrase over and over to make his point. He would summarize his opponent, and then say "But I tell you..." and make his own, usually stronger, argument. Since I saw him in the final round of the world championships, I have to think his strategy was pretty effective.

So effective, in fact, that I'm borrowing it to talk about one of the points of the St. Joseph's Way. The first point in the Way is that our students have infinite worth. That's not language they hear every day. In fact, they usually hear just the opposite. From every direction, they (and we) hear that our value is based either on what we accomplish or by what other people can get from us. **But I tell you** both of these are terrible falsehoods. I'm not anti-achievement by any means, but that's not where our value as people comes from. Someone who achieves less (grade point average, salary, social status, etc.) is not worth less as a person. They are entitled to the same respect, rights, and privileges that we give even the most accomplished among us. The most insidious part of this lie comes from the voices that tell you that your value comes from what other people can get from you. It's true, of course, that what we do for other people matters when we're thinking about service or promoting the true good of another person. More often than not, though, these voices tell us that our value is based on how we advance their selfish interests or their immediate pleasure. **But I tell you** this isn't the case. Relationships should build up both parties, not just one. Good relationships recognize and enhance the dignity of each person.

This kind of thinking can be challenging in a school setting where so much of what we do is graded and assessed. And no, we're not doing away with grades! Rather, we want our interactions to uphold the dignity of our students even when we have to tell them that there is still room for improvement in their work. We won't give up on our students, and we will tell them every day that they have value and dignity, and **they should hold their heads high**. That's the St. Joseph's Way.

From the Academic Support Services & College Counseling Office

College Counseling Meetings for 2021-2022

Please mark your calendars now and plan to attend these important and informative meetings. In each case, at least one parent and the student must attend their respective class meeting. Meetings will begin promptly at 7:00 PM and will last about one hour. Meetings will be held in the JP II Center. Please note the meeting dates for the year: Seniors will meet September 9, 2021; Juniors will meet February 8, 2022; and the Freshmen and Sophomores will meet February 10, 2022. There will also be a special Financial Aid Night for Senior Families on October 5, 2021 at 7:00 PM in the Meeting Room as well as course scheduling meetings for Freshmen and Sophomore families in the spring (specific dates and sign-up links will be emailed to families during second semester).

High School Class Schedules

High school schedules are available in the **FACTS Family Portal**. Emails were sent out in July announcing the availability of schedules and instructions for any necessary schedule changes. Schedule changes will be processed by the Registrar during the designated fall Add/Drop period **August 16-27**. Any scheduling change requests made by Seniors must be reviewed with their College Counselor.

To Access FACTS Family Portal

To access the **FACTS Family Portal**, click [HERE](#) and enter your username and password.

From the Athletic Department

Fall Sports Tryout Dates

Friday, July 30

- Cheerleading: 4:00-6:00 PM, Rising 7-12th Graders
- JV & Varsity Football: 8:00-10:00 AM

Monday, August 2

- Boys & Girls Swimming: 7:00-8:30 AM at Spaulding Farms Pool
- Girls & Boys Cross Country: 7:00-8:30 AM
- JV & Varsity Volleyball: 1:30-3:30 PM
- JV & Varsity Girls Tennis: 9:00-11:30 AM

Wednesday, August 4 & 11

- V Girls Golf: 4:00 PM at The Preserve
- MS Volleyball: 3:00-5:00 PM

Monday, August 9, 2021

- MS Cheer: 3:30-5:00 PM

Sports Participation Requirements for 2021-2022

Any student participating in a sport for the 2021-2022 school year at SJCS must have a physical dated after **April 1, 2021** and complete the required forms ONLINE at www.planeths.com prior to the first practice. NO PAPER FORMS WILL BE ACCEPTED, NO EXCEPTIONS! If you were an athlete in 2020-2021 please use your existing login. The required forms that must be filled out online prior to the first practice are: Pre-Participation History and Pre-Participation Sports Physical Exam (please print and take with you to your doctor and then upload), Parent Consent Form, Concussion Form, a copy of your athlete's birth certificate, and Steadman Hawkins form. All required athletic forms must be submitted through Planet HS (formerly Arbiter Athlete) found [HERE](#). Information for new athletes on how to create the parent and student login at Planet HS will be available on the SJCS website under Athletics. Be sure to type St. Joseph's Catholic School in the search line when looking for our school.

Knights Athletic Booster Club

- The Knights Athletic Booster Club raises money through individual family memberships and various corporate sponsorship opportunities to support **ALL student athletes** at St. Joseph's, across **ALL sports**. Booster Club funding supplements the overall athletic department budget to make purchases that might not otherwise be possible to optimize opportunities for athlete development. We work closely with

Athletic Director, Eric Nash, to determine the most impactful way to spend the dollars raised. In the past, Booster Club contributions have accounted for almost 25% of total athletic expenditures. We also seek to use these funds in ways that contribute to building overall school spirit and a sense of community within SJCS.

- Our goal is to have 100% participation in the Booster Club from athlete families, whether your athlete plays one, two or three seasons of sports at SJCS. Please click [HERE](#) to be directed to the online membership form, which outlines the cost and benefits you'll receive at each membership level.
- We are very pleased to partner again with an SJCS family business, Sully's Steamers, as our key tag sponsor! Depending on which level you join the Booster Club, you will receive one, two, four, or six key tags which can be presented at any Sully's Steamers for a promotional item.
- We welcome this year's slate of officers to the Booster Club Board, and as always, encourage anyone who is interested to come to a meeting. There are both large and small opportunities to volunteer. The officers for this year are: Ben Renfrow (President); Kelly Gillespie (Vice President); Barry Eilers (Secretary); Jonathan Norwood (Treasurer), Jordan Campbell (Membership); Joel Poinsette (Fundraising); Jason Okuley (Concessions); Jennifer Hagan (Golf Tournament); Casey Velkey (Volunteer/Team Parent Coordinator); Michael Pace and Gary Walajtys (Hall of Fame).
- Please look for upcoming information about school wide Booster Club tailgates ahead of Friday night home football games. We look forward to being back together to celebrate our pride in SJCS and CHEER ON OUR KNIGHTS!!!

From the Business Office

Tuition Accounts

- St. Joseph's uses FACTS for all tuition and incidental billing. You can access your student's tuition account through the FACTS Family Portal. Using the FACTS Portal, you will be able to select the day you prefer to pay tuition as well as set up a schedule to pay incidentals. If you need assistance setting up your FACTS account, please contact [Ann Gushue](#).
- Each family possesses a debit account for school store purchases. Payments can be made through the [FACTS portal](#), or by bringing cash or a check to the Business Office.
- Each student also has a debit account for cafeteria purchases. Payments can be made by bringing cash or a check to the front office, or online at [MySchoolBucks](#)
- If you have questions about your tuition account, please contact [Ann Gushue](#).

Cafeteria Service

Flik Dining Services handles our daily cafeteria service. The cost for a full lunch is \$5.75. This is a slight increase over last year due to the increase in food costs. Breakfast items are served from 7:30-7:45 AM, lunch is served during MS and HS lunch periods, and snacks are sold for 45 minutes at the end of each school day. In addition, a la carte items such as pizza or stromboli are served during Household Snack on Wednesdays. Trays for Household snacks, Household lunches, and/or team meals are also available for purchase. Please contact [Chef Stacey](#) for information on the items available for Household lunches and snacks.

School Store

The School Store is open every school day during lunch periods, before school, and after school. Staffed by parent volunteers, the store is located at the entrance to the school cafeteria. The store stocks snacks and some school supplies (highlighters, pens, notecards, etc.), locker accessories (locker ladders and magnets), and St. Joseph's logo items (SJCS t-shirts, car decals and license plates).

From the Development Office

Volunteer Opportunities

Parent involvement at St. Joseph's is an essential part of our growing and active community. Your time and talents can contribute to the life of the school, making St. Joseph's a vibrant and engaging community. Your help is wanted, needed, and appreciated (an added bonus—we have a lot of fun)! Click [HERE](#) to access the Parent

Volunteer Opportunities form and get involved with Parents Guild, Athletic Boosters, Jubilate Arts Guild (Fine Arts Boosters), Gala, and Campus Ministry. We look forward to serving with you!

Annual Fund

Our goal this fiscal year (July 2021– June 2022) is to engage the financial support of 100% of our school families, faculty, and staff in giving to the Annual Fund. We will track participation numbers by grade level throughout the year. The Annual Fund provides approximately 6% of the school's budget that is not covered by tuition. These dollars are raised every year through the generosity of our community, and provide tuition assistance, support for academic programs, athletics, fine arts, campus ministry, and enrich student life. Our Annual Fund goal for this year, which includes proceeds from the Gala, is \$525,000. Please contact [Kevin Meyer](#) with any questions, download your [Annual Fund Donation Form](#) or give [online](#) today!

From the Fine Arts Department

In Case You Missed It: 2021 Spring Concerts

If you missed viewing our spring concert videos in the midst of the end-of-year events, they are still available to watch on the SJCS Fine Arts YouTube page found [HERE](#). These videos feature the work of our High School and Middle School students involved with last year's Band, Choral, and Strings programs in professionally-recorded videos. We hope that you'll enjoy the hard work of our talented students as you enjoy these performances with your family.

Fine Arts Coffeehouse Events

Throughout the school year, the Fine Arts Department and Jubilate Arts Guild sponsor several Coffeehouse events. These open-mic events provide a space for students to perform in a fun, informal venue and enjoy socializing with their classmates, while enjoying snacks and entertainment. Admission is \$5 per person and snacks are provided. Below are the dates for the 2021-2022 Coffeehouse events. Be sure to mark your calendars and more specific details will be provided prior to the events.

- High School Coffeehouses: September 10 and May 6
- Middle School Coffeehouse: October 1

Volunteers Needed

Please contact [Teresa McGrath](#) for more information on how to volunteer for either of the opportunities below:

- Any parents or students willing to donate their time and talents to the Fine Arts Department through their sewing skills
- Any parents willing to assist in the Scene Shop during after-school and Saturday crew sessions

Opportunities to Support the Jubilate Arts Guild

- Show your love for the Arts by joining the Jubilate Arts Guild (JAG). With membership support this past year, we were able to purchase several items to benefit the department, including sheet music, tech equipment, art displays, instruments, and much more. The 2021-2022 membership form can be found [HERE](#).
- Looking to get more involved? The Jubilate Arts Guild is in need of parents to serve on the JAG committee for the 2021-2022 school year. We have vacancies for Secretary, Membership, Ways and Means, Tech Week/Concessions Coordinator. If you are interested in these opportunities or sharing your time and talents to support the SJCS Arts in additional ways, please contact Jubilate Arts Guild President [Christine Balts](#) to find out how you can support our Fine Arts students and teachers.
- Red Door ornaments are available for purchase [HERE](#).
- The Christmas Wreath Sale starts in October. Purchase a Christmas wreath for your family or gift one to a friend or relative. They will be delivered to any address you choose the first week of December. Ordering details coming soon.

Jubilate Knight for the Arts 2022

Mark your calendars for our Fine Arts Department's annual fundraiser and talent competition, Jubilate Knight for the Arts, on Saturday, January 29, 2022. All members of the school community are invited to participate in this event and the sale of voting tokens aids in funding the needs of our dance, choral, instrumental, theatre, and visual arts programs. Preparations for this family-friendly evening begin in the fall. To join the planning committee please contact [Christine Balts](#) or [Cindy Davis](#).

From the Parents Guild

Welcome to the Parents Guild!

Welcome back to all our returning students and parents and a very warm welcome to our new families! All parents and guardians of any enrolled student at SJCS are automatic members of the Parents Guild. The Parents Guild works with the faculty and staff of SJCS to support the mission of the school and provide resources to all the members of the SJCS community who guide our students. If you would like to know more about the Parents Guild and what we do, please contact [Rebecca Feldman](#).

Parents Guild Board 2021-2022

The Parents Guild Board members for the year are Kimberly Masters (President), Rebecca Feldman (Vice President-Parent Engagement), Monica Dodge (Treasurer), Jessica Clements (Secretary), and Elaine Barnhill (MS Representative). Please contact any board member with ideas or questions.

No-Cost Fundraisers

Please visit the Parents Guild page on the SJCS website [HERE](#) to learn ways to participate in no-cost fundraising programs for 2021-2022. These include Publix, Harris Teeter, Lowes, Box Tops for Education, and Amazon.

No More Clipping Box Tops!

Scan your receipts! Box Tops is changing to fit today's families. The new and improved Box Tops mobile app uses state-of-the-art technology to scan your store receipt, find participating products and instantly add Box Tops to our school's earnings online. Traditional Box Tops clips are being phased out of production but may continue to be found on many products throughout the store. You can still clip and send them to school. Eventually the Box Tops program will become digital-only. Participating brands have changed their packaging from a traditional Box Tops clip to the new Box Top label. If you see the new label, use the Box Tops app to scan your receipt. Box Tops are still worth 10¢ each for our school. The app will find participating products purchased at any store and instantly add cash to our school's earnings online. To download the app and find more information click [HERE](#).

Spirit Wear

The School Store will have official SJCS outerwear and spirit wear available for purchase. Just a few of the offerings this year: stadium chairs, blankets, t-shirts, hoodies, sweatshirts, and more. Look for our online Spirit Wear sale email coming soon!

From the Technology Services Director

- **New Students:** have already received their SJCS email information via an email that was sent to their parents earlier this summer.
- **Sixth Grade Students:** will have Chromebooks available in the classroom as needed/directed by their teacher.
- **Seventh through Twelfth Grade Students:** will receive their Chromebooks on the first day of school in their Household.