

## Roman Catholic High School Parent Newsletter

September 24, 2021 Volume 4—Edition 2



## **Back to School Night**

Back to School Night is scheduled for *Thursday September 30th*! It will be held virtually. Details will be communicated with our families as the date approaches!

**Back to School Forms** 

In order to facilitate our "Back to School Forms" process, the Back to School forms can now be accessed on your Parent Portal of PowerSchool to be electronically signed and stored. *These forms cannot be accessed on the student portal of PowerSchool*. **They must be signed through the Parent Portal**. Please click <u>here</u> for directions on how to access the forms and sign.

The following forms need to be completed:

- 1. Act 195 (Certificate of Individual Request For Loan of Textbooks, Instruction Materials and Equipment)
- 2. Consent Form For Electronic Communication With Minors
- 3. Memorandum of Understanding
- 4. Photo Consent Form
- 5. Responsible Use Form for Technology
- 6. Student Release, Waiver of Liability, and Indemnity (the bottom of this form includes the handbook acknowledgement)
- 7. Virtual Classroom Video/Audio Recording
- 8. Assisting Childhood Education Through Increased Testing (ACEIT)

## Information Regarding PaySchool Lunch Accounts

Please click <u>here</u> for information on how to set up your PaySchool Lunch account.



## **HELP WANTED- The Forum**

The Forum, Roman's School Store, has an opening for a part-time sales associate. Two days a week from 8-2:30. If interested, please email Father Bongard at <u>jbongard@romancatholichs.com</u>.

## **TRANSPASSES- IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

Transpasses were distributed during homeroom the first week of school. It is EXTREMELY IMPORTANT that you remind your son this is the **ONLY** card he will receive for his transportation as a student at Roman Catholic. If for some reason they lose their card, a new card needs to be purchased. To activate this new card, **it could take up to 7-10 days**. *Transportation will* **be your responsibility during that time**. Please stress the importance of keeping their transportation card in a safe place at all times!



## Important Reminders from Guidance!

**Senior parents** - Please encourage your son to come to Guidance to schedule an appointment. Students must come down to the Guidance Office and fill out an appointment slip. Interviews are scheduled on a first come, first serve basis!

Mark your calendar!

#### We will host a Virtual Financial Aid Night on October 7th at 6:30pm.

*Mr.* Joe Alaimo from Gwynedd Mercy University will be our presenter this year and will present information about the FAFSA, grants, scholarships and more. Look for the link in the next newsletter! We hope to see you there.

The *PSAT* will be held at Roman on *Wednesday October 13th*. If your son is a junior, please encourage him to be prepping on Khan Academy. The PSAT is the best practice for the SAT and this score is used when advising him on colleges. *Sophomore parents*, please ask your son to take this test seriously. *Freshmen parents*, your sons will be taking the PSAT 8/9. We believe that students who focus and take the test seriously, end up performing better on the SAT. We will get out additional information and pointers for being prepared as the date gets closer. Mrs. Connell. Mrs. Snyder and Mrs. Levine were in Sophomore classes this week. All Sophomores created a Collegeboard account and made sure they could also get logged into their Naviance. They are getting ready to begin the Freshman and Sophomore Interviews and Juniors will start in January. Please tell your son to let us know if he needs anything. He can come into the office and fill out an appointment slip. Sister Jane will be happy to show him how and direct him to his counselor. The Grade Level Counselors are Mrs. Connell (Freshmen), Mrs. Snyder (Sophomores) and Mrs. Desmond (Juniors and Seniors). Mrs. Levine and Mrs. Hoole are our Family Connections Counselors. The Guidance Staff is always available to assist the students at Catholic High!

## **PICTURE DAY- SAY CHEESE!**

JUNIORS: Monday October 4th SOPHOMORES: Tuesday October 5th FRESHMEN: Wednesday October 6th MAKEUP DATE: Thursday October 7th

Please make sure your son is neatly groomed and in <u>WINTER</u> uniform (*black pants, oxford shirt, tie, sweater*) for Picture Day! Students will report to the gym after eating lunch to take their school picture.



DEADLINE: 01/10/2022

## YEARBOOKS YEARBOOKS YEARBOOKS!

Click here for information on how to order your 2021-2022 Yearbook!

SENIOR PARENTS: click here to purchase an Ad!





**BOMAN CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL** 

## **PURPLE VS GOLD CHALLENGE!- UPDATE**

Team Purple- 401 Points Team Gold- 355 Points **New Challenge:** *MATH PROBLEM OF THE MONTH*! Every month, the Math Department will provide a "Math Problem of the Month"! Problems can be picked up in Student Affairs! Winner will be entered into a drawing for a prize as well as points for P v G Challenge! *September Problem: due 9/30!* 



## **Class of 2022 Senior Portrait Retakes!**

On *Wednesday, September 29th,* Lifetouch will be at Roman taking the Senior Portraits of those students who were fully virtual and did not get their portrait

taken. An email will go out with the schedule to those students who did not get their portrait done in the spring. Lifetouch will stay on campus to do any retakes after 10:30am! It will be done on a first come, first serve basis during the student lunch periods!





## **Financial Aid Grant Opportunities**

#### Norphans Grant Application

The Norphans grant is awarded to financially needy students who are direct descendants of Northeast Catholic Alumni (child, grandchild, great-grandchild). These grants are one-time grants for the current school year. Click <u>here</u> to apply!

#### Corporal Jimmy O'Connor Scholarship

The Jimmy O'Connor grant is awarded to children or grandchildren of active or retired police officers in the Philadelphia region. These grants are for up to four years in the amount of \$500 per year. These grants are named for Jimmy O'Connor, a Philadelphia Police Officer who was killed in the line of duty. This scholarship is for up to four years. There is no requirement that the Jimmy O'Connor grant recipient be a descendant of a Northeast Catholic alumni. Click here to apply!

## SCHOOLOGY ACCESS FOR PARENTS

Parent access codes for Schoology will be sent via email at the beginning of next week. Schoology is a learning management system that allows teachers to share course materials with students. Parents have read-only access to their sons' Schoology courses in order to monitor their progress. *Please email Mr. Buck if you need assistance.* 

## **Holiday Mail for Heroes**

This December our CSC will be participating with the Red Cross in their annual Holiday Mail for Heroes. If you know of any Roman Alums, family members, or friends that you believe would enjoy receiving a Christmas Card, please forward their name and address to Mrs. McKenna (jmckenna@romancatholichs.com) by November 1st. Kindly put Holiday Mail for Heroes in the subject line of your email.



## **Mothers' Club**



The Mothers' Club is a service organization of mothers and guardians with current as well as graduated students. Their primary goal is to enhance the Roman community through initiatives that benefit our school throughout the year. They meet once a month from September – May (about 60 minutes). Meetings usually include a visit from a key member of the administrative staff and/or faculty. These special guests provide you with an update on school happenings and address questions. Annual dues are \$10.00 which covers their operating expenses as well as supporting many events/fundraisers. Please email mothersclub@romancatholichs.com if you have any guestions! *Click here to purchase or* 

renew your membership.

## FALL DESIGNER BAG BINGO

Hottest tickets in town are now on sale! Fall Designer Bag Bingo, *sponsored by the Mothers' Club*, will be held on Sunday, November 14, 2021 from 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM in the school Gym. Tickets will only be sold online- <u>NO TICKETS WILL BE SOLD AT THE</u> <u>DOOR</u>. Doors will open at 1:00 PM. BYOB! Cost is \$25 and includes 10 rounds of Bingo. Click <u>here</u> to purchase. Additional cards are \$10 and are available for purchase at the door. There will be three special rounds available at an additional cost of \$5 each at the door.

## Free Eye Care Opportunity

Free Eye Care for Kids on *Saturday, October 9, 2021* from 9:00am to 5:00pm: **BY APPOINTMENT ONLY!** Click <u>here</u> for more information and details on how to make an appointment!



## **ATTENTION ALL JUNIORS & SENIORS**

*The Collegium Institute of The University of Pennsylvania*, is extending an invitation to Roman Juniors & Seniors to attend their upcoming Young Catholic Leaders Initiative, *On Reconciling Science and Religion*. Scheduled for Saturday, November 20<sup>th</sup>, the day will feature lectures by world-renowned Catholic scientists and speakers, breakout seminars with peers led by Collegium Institute facilitators, interactive exercises, and a panel discussion on vocations in science, medicine, and engineering, along with a special Gold Mass for Catholic Scientists at midday! A Continental Breakfast and Lunch included with registration.

This workshop is geared toward all advanced high school students seeking to become Catholic leaders who are able to appreciate the harmonious relationship between the faith and the sciences. Registration will be limited. Preference will be given to students who register by the priority deadline of Friday, October 8th.

For more information & to register, click here!

## A Message From the Guidance Office

Members of the Roman Catholic High School Guidance Team are available to assist the students at Catholic High! If your son is ever in need of assistance, please reach out to his counselor!

Grade-Level Counselors:

• Mrs. Desmond (<u>mdesmond@romancatholichs.com</u>)--Guidance Director/Junior and Senior Counselor

- Mrs. Snyder (csnyder@romancatholichs.com)--Sophomore Counselor
- Mrs. Connell (<u>mconnell@romancatholichs.com</u>)--Freshmen Counselor
- Family Connections Counselors:
- Mrs. Hoole (jhoole@romancatholichs.com) and Mrs. Levine (mlevine@romancatholichs.com)



## **Tips for Addressing Academic Concerns**

• **Monitor PowerSchool**—parents have access to PowerSchool, which allows them to closely monitor their son's performance in his coursework. Login information was mailed to each family at the start of the school year. If you are still in need of PowerSchool login information, please contact Mrs. Shipton at <a href="mailto:mshipton@romancatholichs.com">mshipton@romancatholichs.com</a>

• **Open Dialogue with your Son**—As grades are entered into PowerSchool, have a conversation with your son about both the positive grades as well as the grades that need to be improved. Providing your sons with positive feedback throughout the marking period often makes it easier to address academic obstacles. When assignments are missing or test grades are low, this timely



dialogue with your son is critical. The importance of completing work on time and studying for assessments is critical to a student's success at Roman Catholic High School.

• Email the Teachers—the Roman Catholic Faculty is comprised of many talented educators who are here to support your sons along their academic journey. After having a conversation with your son, please feel free to reach out to your son's teachers through email. Please give teachers 48 hours to respond as their teaching loads consist of around 150 students. Also, feel free to copy the Department Chair for the academic discipline on your correspondence to the teacher. The Department Chair emails can be found below:

- Theology—Mr. Jim Murphy jmurphy@romancatholichs.com
- English—Mr. Fitzgerald Gallagher <u>fgallagher@romancatholichs.com</u>
- Science—Mr. Dennis DiGiovanni <u>ddigiovanni@romancatholichs.com</u>
- Social Studies—Mr. John Corrigan jcorrigan@romancatholichs.com
- World Languages—Mr. Nicholas Azzara <u>nazzara@romancatholichs.com</u>
- Mathematics—Mr. Jim Brennan jbrennan@romancatholichs.com
- Business—Ms. Theresa A. Lazorko <u>tlazorko@romancatholichs.com</u>
- Physical Education/Health--Mr. Robert Hill <a href="mailto:rhill@romancatholichs.com">rhill@romancatholichs.com</a>
- Fine Arts/Music--Mrs. Shannon Gallagher- sgallagher@romancatholichs.com

# *If you do not hear back from a teacher within 48 hours, please reach out to their respective department chair with your concerns.*

• Assistant Principal for Academic Affairs — If after reaching out to your son's teacher and the department chair you still have concerns, please feel free to email Mr. Buck at <u>cbuck@romancatholichs.com</u>

• **Contact the Guidance Department**—Our Guidance Director, Mrs. Mary Desmond, may be able to assist you with finding additional resources for your son to improve his academic performance. Please reach out to Mrs. Desmond at mdesmond@romancatholichs.com . We have a dedicated Counseling Department and their

contact information can be found below:

- Freshmen Counselor—Ms. Mary Connell— <u>mconnell@romancatholichs.com</u>
- Sophomore Counselor—Mrs. Carol Snyder— <u>csnyder@romancatholichs.com</u>
- Junior and Seniors— Mrs. Mary Desmond— <u>mdesmond@romancatholichs.com</u>

Family Connections Counselors--Mrs. Hoole (<u>jhoole@romancatholichs.com</u>) and Mrs. Levine (<u>mlevine@romancatholichs.com</u>)