



**ST. JOSEPH'S**  
CATHOLIC SCHOOL  
**NEWS & NOTES**

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

**From the Desk of the Headmaster**

Greetings from St. Joseph's Catholic School and welcome to the 2018-19 school year!

I hope that this letter finds you in the midst of a fun family adventure of one kind or another while looking forward to the coming school year with all the expectation and promise that a new school year brings.

My summer began with me going on a retreat at the Catholic Conference Center in Hickory, NC, the theme of which was: "See, I am doing something new: do you not perceive it?" We had just finished the school's 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary year. As last year drew to a close, it was clear that many changes were in the works as we prepared for the 2018-19 school year. In January, we had announced the reformulation of our 6<sup>th</sup> grade program into what we are calling the Sixth Grade Academy. In March, we cut the ribbon opening a new 3-story building, with all the classroom and offices moves that we knew were going to take place over the summer. In April, we made the decision to reorganize our administrative structure, following a long-discussed plan to appoint, for the first time, directors for both the middle and high school. Dr. Jones accepted my offer to serve as the High School Director, and we began a nationwide search for a Middle School Director.

While we were on-boarding a new Athletic Director, our football coach resigned in late May. Around the same time, I learned that our long-time CFO would be leaving at the end of June. We also knew that we had a handful of other key openings to fill, so we entered the summer looking for a high school chemistry teacher with a proven track record of success.

So, yes, the theme of the retreat: "See, I am doing something new" definitely caught my attention. What was God doing with all of these changes at one time? Would we be able to find the right people to meet the needs of our students, teachers, and families and help us move the school to the next level of excellence? It's frankly been years since I've gone into a summer with as much uncertainty. Yet, it has also been the most invigorating summer in years. God has, indeed, been very good to us. Truly, this is also the most excited I've been for the start of a new school year since perhaps my first year at St. Joseph's a couple of decades ago. That is because we have been able to hire some amazingly talented and experienced women and men who have the potential to profoundly impact the lives of our students immediately and for years to come.

First among these that I want to introduce to you is our new Middle School Director, Mrs. Wanda Jaraczewski, (the students in her previous school called her "Mrs. J.") who is coming to us from St. Joseph Catholic Academy in Kenosha, Wisconsin. During her near 10 years of service to that school (from which she graduated from high school), Wanda has served as business manager, director of admissions, director of student success, and most recently as director of middle school. As one trustee commented recently about Wanda's resume, her experience seems to be tailor-made for the needs of our middle school at this time. One indication of how good a fit I think she is for our school is the enthusiasm with which the announcement of her accepting the position generated in those who met her during the admissions process. Plans are in place for Mrs. Jaraczewski (for pronunciation, think of Duke basketball Coach Mike Krzyzewski, and you'll be on the right track to pronouncing her name correctly) to be in Greenville for the start of the school year. She brings with her to St. Joseph's a 12<sup>th</sup> grade daughter, Lili, and a 7<sup>th</sup> grade son, Johnny. Her husband John will stay behind to sell the house and will join the family after taking care of everything in Kenosha, their hometown since childhood! I am excited for you to meet Wanda during orientation day and at the all-school potluck tailgate before the first football game on Friday, August 17, if not before.

I am also looking forward to you meeting our other new hires. Emily Butler is joining us from Greenville High where she was a College Counselor for 5 years before accepting the same role at St. Joseph's this summer. Emily earned her BA in Mass Communication from North Greenville and holds a Masters in Counseling from California State University. Emily is married with two children.

Our new chemistry teacher is David Wilson, who comes to us from Pope John XXIII High School in Franklin, NJ, where he has been a master teacher there for the past 12 years and at his former school for 22 years. According to the principal at Pope John, we're getting one of the best teachers in his building. David earned a BA in Chemistry from Lafayette College and holds a MA in Applied Science from the NJ Institute of Technology. Like Wanda, David will be bringing two new SJCS students with him: a 12<sup>th</sup> grade daughter, Maria, and 9<sup>th</sup> grade son, Matthew. David and his wife will be beginning a new chapter of their lives in Greenville. And if his last name is familiar to you, it is because he is the father of St. Joseph's teacher, Thomas Wilson.

Although not new to SJCS, Karen Miros, has new responsibilities at SJCS beginning this year. With nearly a decade of experience at St. Joseph's, along with a passion for Catholic education and what we do here, in particular, Karen is uniquely positioned to support our MS and HS directors.

By now, you have probably seen emails from our new football coach, Jon Wheeler, so you've gotten a sense of how good a fit he is for our school. Coach Wheeler has been on the job less than two months and is already reenergizing our football players and beginning the process of revitalizing our program. And even as I write this, we are finalizing our selection for our new choral director. With three excellent finalists, I am confident that the new chorus teacher will take that program to a new level of excellence.

So, welcome to the new school year, a new year in which God is definitely doing something new in our community. I hope that you experience this directly in your family in wonderful ways. I'm looking forward to seeing you in the coming weeks. Please carefully read all of the information in this "beginning of the year edition" of *News and Notes*, especially the information that pertains to orientation and the start of the school year events.

And finally, we said goodbye and Godspeed to longtime CFO Ann O'Dea at the end of June. Ann's service and dedication to the school was exemplary. During her tenure, the school's budget and facility grew by leaps and bounds. Through all of it, Ann was always a good steward of the school's resources and found a way to balance the budget and reduce the school's debt load while awarding tuition assistance, improving faculty pay, keeping an aging facility in good repair, and building new buildings. We wish her well as she begins a new chapter in her life. I also want to thank Melody Thompson, who worked alongside Ann in the Business Office, without whose efforts much of the above accomplishments would not have been possible. Melody is excited to begin her new job at Riverside High. We are currently interviewing candidates in search of a new CFO. In the meantime, please contact [Anita Childers](#) with questions concerning financial aid, and contact [Lisa Lawrence](#) with questions concerning tuition payments.

In closing, please join us in praying for the following members of the SJCS family: for Catherine '15, Margaret '16 and Lee Eberly on the loss of their grandfather; and for Mya '16 and Abbie Salerno on the loss of their grandfather.

With Love and Prayers,  
Keith F. Kiser  
Headmaster

## Things You Need To Know

### Mandatory ALL SPORTS Parent Meeting, July 26

Fall 2018 sports begin as early as July 27. Please see below for the date of each fall sport tryouts. If you have a student that plans to play ANY sport during the 2018-2019 school year, there will be a mandatory parent meeting on Thursday, July 26 at 7:00 PM in the gym. Any student participating in a sport at SJCS must have a physical dated after April 1, 2018 and complete the required forms ONLINE prior to the first practice. NO PAPER FORMS WILL BE ACCEPTED, NO EXCEPTIONS!

- The required forms that must be filled out online prior to the first practice are: Pre-Participation History and Pre-Participation Sports Physical Exam, 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 Arbiter Athlete found [HERE](#). Information on how to create the parent and student login at Arbiter Athlete is available on the SJCS website under Athletics, or you can send a text to 69274 containing S777 in the message and you will instantly receive a text inviting you to create an account. Be sure to type St. Joseph's Catholic School in the search line when looking for our school.

### Fall 2018 Team Tryouts Begin July 27

- The following tryouts begin on Friday, July 27: Boys and girls cross country (7:30-9:00 AM), JV and Varsity football (8:00 AM-Noon)
- The following tryouts begin on Monday, July 30: JV and Varsity girls tennis (4:00-6:00 PM), boys and girls swimming (7:30-9:30 AM at Spalding Farms Pool), JV and Varsity volleyball (1:30-3:30 PM), and Girls Golf (9:30 AM at The Preserve at Verdae)
- The following tryouts begin on Monday, August 6: MS volleyball (3:30-5:30 PM)
- The following tryouts begin on Monday, August 13: MS football (Time TBD)

All tryouts and practices are on campus unless otherwise noted.

### Cheer Camp Begins August 6

Cheer Camp begins August 6 and it's not too late to sign up. To register for Cheer Camp click [HERE](#).

### Pep Band Pre-season Camp, August 6-10

- 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 6-10 from 9:00-11:30 AM. We will have a catered lunch on the last day. The cost for pre-season is \$30 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. 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, 1:30-3:00 PM. We will play for at least three Varsity Friday night home football games (8/31, 9/14, and 9/28), the Fall Pep Rally and possibly a JV or MS game. All dates will be announced before the pre-season camp has ended.
- Additionally, Pep Band can be taken for 1/2 HS credit for 9<sup>th</sup> grade and above, with permission.
- Questions? Contact SJCS Band Director, [Marjorie Malphrus](#).

### Attention New HS Students: Makeup Placement Testing, August 7

Most new HS students completed our placement testing in May. However, if your child is new to our high school for the 2018-19 school year and enrolled after May 1, he/she may still need to complete this testing. A make-up date has been set for Tuesday, August 7, 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 7-9

The College Counseling Office will be conducting a free College Application Workshop for Seniors in the Meeting Room on August 7 and 8 from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM and on August 9 from 10:00 AM to Noon. The focus will be the Common Application and state 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 events using the registration link that was sent to you in July.

### Come Back to Give Back 2018, August 11

Join us and meet new families while connecting with other SJCS community members as we take some time to spruce up the campus for our new school year. All families, friends and alumni are encouraged to volunteer in a variety of projects

from 8:00 AM-Noon on Saturday, August 11. Boxed lunches will be provided for all volunteers. The first 50 to sign up will receive a Free T-Shirt. To sign up, click [HERE](#). Questions? Contact [Rachel Neubauer](#) in the Development Office.

**ATTENTION ALL PARENTS: Complete/Review Family Demographic Form online by August 14**

This online form must be reviewed and completed by all parents (new and returning) each summer through your ParentsWeb account. We must have verification that you reviewed and/or updated important student, parent, grandparent, medical, transportation, and emergency contact information in RenWeb (our school's online software program). To access the Family Demographic Form: 1) Log into your ParentsWeb account with your username and password. 2) The St. Joseph's page will pop up. Under the "School Information" tab, click "Web Forms." 3) Click on the Family Demographic Form. 4) The required form(s) will pop up by your child's (children's) name(s). 5) Open each form and verify or provide the information that is needed. Once you have reviewed your page, hit "SAVE" at the bottom of each form. **MOST IMPORTANT:** You must hit SAVE on the form even if you do not make changes in order for the school to receive your information and confirm that you have reviewed your information. This information will then be sent directly to St. Joseph's.

- As a reminder, all SJCS parents must set up a ParentsWeb account. **ParentsWeb Instructions** can be found on the school website at the bottom of the webpage titled Parent Resources: Forms and Links. Click [HERE](#). Once you set up your account, this tool helps parents with the following: 1) Completing required forms online, 2) Accessing a Student Directory, and 3) Viewing your child's schedule and grades.

**Faculty/Staff Orientation, August 14-16**

Faculty/Staff Orientation begins August 14 and continues intermittently through August 16. 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.

**NHS & Beta Club Members Required Attendance, August 16 & 17**

All NHS and Beta Club members should have received an email from Mrs. McCoy or Mrs. Crosby about assisting new students on Friday, August 17, as well as attending a short preliminary instructional session at the school on Thursday, August 16. This mandatory service project is crucial to helping new students acclimate to SJCS.

**Chromebook Distribution, August 16 & 17**

Chromebooks will be distributed to all freshman during Orientation on Friday, August 17. Chromebooks for returning students in grades 8, 10, 11, and 12 will be available for pick up in the Library on Thursday, August 16 between 2:00-3:00 PM and Friday, August 17 between 2:00-3:30 PM. Any Chromebooks not picked up during Orientation must be picked up in the library by the end of school Monday, August 20.

**Student Parking Forms Due, August 16 & 17**

All juniors and seniors planning to drive to school should fill out the Driver Permission Form for Students found [HERE](#) and turn it in on August 16 between 2-3:30 PM or August 17 between 2-3:00 PM in the JP II Center. Passes will be issued in Household during the first full week of school. Sophomores will be able to apply for parking passes beginning September 10.

**New Student Orientation, Friday, August 17**

*All Students Grades 6 & 9; All New Students in Grades 7, 8, 10, 11, & 12:* All parents are required to accompany their child on Friday, August 17. NHS and Beta Club students will be on hand in the parking lot when you arrive to assist in carrying things to your locker and introduce you to your Household Dean. Students are not required to wear their school uniform. In addition to meeting your teachers and walking your schedule, students and parents will be able to drop off required forms, pick up Chromebooks (8-12 grade students only), and visit the school store.

**Returning Student Orientation, Friday, August 17**

All returning students grade 7-8-10-11-12 are welcome to campus on Friday, August 17 between 2-3:30 PM to set up their locker, turn in required forms, and pick up Chromebooks (8-12 grade students only).

**For complete details, see the Orientation schedules page in this edition of News & Notes.**

**Welcome Back School-Wide Potluck, August 17**

All families are invited to attend an All-SJCS Community-Wide Tailgate potluck picnic as we cheer on our SJCS Knights in the first home football game, on Friday, August 17. Stay tuned to your email for details!

**Important Parking Info for the First Home Football Game, Friday, August 17**

SJCS will host Carolina High School in our first Varsity home football game of the season on Friday, August 17 at 7:30 PM. Below are some reminders about game day policies on campus:

**On-Campus Parking/Tailgating:** The school has two parking lots open for tailgating/parking beginning at 5:30 PM: 1) The visitor parking lot in front of the main school entrance and 2) the large HS lot. NOTE: the visitor lot in front of the main school entrance is reserved for Knights Athletic Booster Club Gold (\$500) and Platinum (\$850) Level Members. Car hang tags to identify those members can be picked up at the school office. This hang tag must be displayed on your car mirror at all times while on campus that evening. Please note that only one vehicle per family will be given access to the front parking lot.

**Off-Campus Parking Lot:** The other lot open for parking is directly across from the football field on Ridge Road in the Global Business Park campus (Virginia Business College). This is a grass lot with limited lighting. NO TAILGATING IS ALLOWED IN THIS LOT. Anyone parked across the street in the grass lot MUST cross the street where the police officer is stationed.

**No Parking on Ridge Road:** Parking is strictly prohibited along Ridge Road.

**Handicap Parking:** There is limited handicap parking in the MS parking lot. Access to this lot will be granted with a valid handicap car tag.

**Field Admission:** Game time is 7:30 PM. Field gates open at 6:30 PM. Admission is \$6.00 per person. SJCS students are free with student ID, SJCS alumni are free with Alumni card, SJCS faculty/staff and their families are free, and children 6 and under are free. Ticket gates will be located at the lower gate near the back driveway and the upper gate near the baseball field.

**Stadium Seating:** Our football stadium will be open for our fans. Please be aware that the seating was designed for the addition of metal bleachers over the concrete steps in the future, so you may wish to bring a blanket or a seat cushion in order to ensure your comfort.

**Concessions:** Knights Athletic Booster Club will be offering concessions for sale at all of the home games.

**Student Attire:** SJCS students must wear shirts at all times and black body-painting is prohibited.

**Last But Not Least:** Show your pride and root for your team, but please remember proper sportsmanlike conduct becoming of a St. Joseph's family is expected at all times.

### **24-Hour Theatre Extravaganza, August 17 & 18**

What better way to end the summer and kick off the school year than with a Theatre Extravaganza? Anyone in the SJCS school community (rising 8th grader and older) can be involved in this event. Please see the Fine Arts section for complete details.

### **Summer Reading to be Completed by August 20**

Every student has summer reading assignments to be completed by the start of school in August. For a complete list, please click on the following links: [Middle School Summer Reading](#) and [High School Summer Reading](#)

### **Monday, August 20**

This will be the first full day of classes. The day will run on a Monday/Tuesday/Friday bell schedule and students may wear their casual uniform.

### **HS Add/Drop Period, August 20-29**

Schedule changes may be made August 20-29 based on the Add/Drop policy found on pages 4-5 of the 2018-2019 High School Course Catalog. Parents and students should read this policy carefully BEFORE making schedule change requests. Add/Drop forms are available in the College Counseling Office.

### **HS Speech and Debate Club Interest Meeting**

Any HS student interested in the Speech and Debate Club should email [Mrs. Carr](#). An interest meeting will be held the first week of school and information will be given to students via the daily bulletin.

### **Red Door Ceremony, August 22**

All ninth grade students and new high school students will take part in the Red Door Ceremony prior to Mass on Wednesday, August 22 beginning at 10:23 AM. Parents are encouraged to attend.

*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.*

**Attractions Book Fundraiser, August 22-31**

The Attractions Book sale is back! There are TONS of coupons and savings in one small book. The money raised, through this Parents Guild-run fundraiser, will be used to fund the needs of the school. Each student will receive one Book to sell and will be encouraged to collect orders for additional copies at \$20 each. Orders can also be placed online. There are some great incentives for Households and individuals who sell the most books. All unsold books need to be returned in their original envelope by the last day of the sale.

- Questions? Contact [Jackie Zannino](#) (864-303-5947). Want to join in on the fun? We're looking for a few volunteers to help collect envelopes from students. It's very simple and the shifts are very short during the first weeks of school. Contact [Jackie Zannino](#) to sign up for a few shifts.

**Monthly Requiem Mass, August 23**

Mass for the Faithful Departed will be offered at 9:45 AM in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel. The mass will be offered for all those family and friends who have died in the past 3 months or whose anniversary of death falls during the months of June, July, and August. A sign-up list will be sent out the week of the mass.

**Yearbook Pictures, August 23**

Dress uniforms are required all day for grades 6 - 11 for yearbook photos on Thursday, August 23. Students will be directed by class to their assigned photo times during the school day. Please be sure to have all necessary dress uniform items (blazers, ties, vests, etc) on hand and wrinkle free, neat haircuts, and boys clean shaven. A make-up photo day will be available for absent students if needed.

**High School Youth in Government (HS YIG) Interviews Begin, August 23**

HS YIG interviews will begin Thursday, August 23. Any ninth grader or student new to SJCS and is interested in YIG needs to sign up for an interview outside Mrs. Carr's room (Room 205) and pick up an application form. Any HS student who did YIG last year and is not planning on participating this year needs to let [Mrs. Carr](#) know immediately. Students interested in being an attorney need to email [Mrs. Koon](#) ASAP. Please sign up for interviews as soon as you can starting on the first day of school.

**HS Fall Play Auditions, August 27-29**

Auditions for the HS Fall Play will be held August 27-28, with Callbacks on August 29. These auditions are open to all HS students. More information will be available on the Fine Arts website in August. Questions? Contact Fine Arts Director, [Teresa McGrath](#).

**Welcome Back Parent Receptions, August 28**

Come celebrate getting through the first week of school and meet other SJCS Parents and community members by joining us for one of our 'Welcome Back' drop-in receptions on Tuesday, August 28. Our [Welcome Back Parents Breakfast](#) will be from 8:00-9:00 AM in the cafeteria and if you can't make that, join us for our [Welcome Back Parents Wine & Cheese](#) from 5:30-7:00 PM. You can RSVP for the events by clicking on the respective event's hyperlink above. (RSVP not necessary to attend; however, it would provide us a number to plan for.)

**Senior Class Day, August 31**

All seniors will travel to Look Up Lodge in Travelers Rest, SC, on Friday, August 31, for the "Senior Class Day", a day of rest, games, reflection, and community. The day will begin at 8:30 AM and wrap up at 3:00 PM. Students will be back at school in time for athletic practices. All seniors are required to attend. Most transportation will be provided by the school, but some seniors will need to carpool together. More information will be given to seniors during the first week of school. Questions? Contact SJCS Campus Minister [Gabe Lewis](#).

**Senior and Parents Guidance Meeting, September 6**

Our annual meeting for seniors and their parents will be held on Thursday, September 6 at 7:00 P M 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. Chris Gruber, Vice President/Dean of Admission and Financial Aid at Davidson College will be here to present.

**Eighth Grade Class Day, September 7**

The 8th graders will spend the day off-campus for their "8th Grade Class Day", from 8:30 AM to 3:00 PM at Look Up Lodge in Travelers Rest, SC. This is a day dedicated to getting to know their classmates and themselves better, and to understand their role as 8th graders at St. Joseph's. Most transportation will be provided by SJCS, but some parent drivers will be needed. Questions or to volunteer to drive, contact SJCS Campus Minister [Gabe Lewis](#).

**HS Fine Arts Coffeehouse, September 7**

The Jubilate Arts Guild and Fine Arts Department will be sponsoring the first HS Coffeehouse of the school year from 5:00-7:00 PM. This event will take place in the SJCS Cafeteria. All HS students are encouraged to participate in this event and we invite all families to attend. MS students are permitted to come if an older sibling is performing, but must be accompanied by their parents. Plan to come for an evening of coffee, fellowship, and open-mic entertainment. Equipment will be available for those interested in performing a favorite poem, song, or monologue throughout the evening. Entrance is through the HS student entrance and admission is \$5.00 per person. This admission fee will be charged to the student's account (additional family members who attend will also be counted into the account charges).

**HS Homecoming Dance, September 15**

The Homecoming Dance will take place from 8:00-11:00 PM. This dance is open to all SJCS HS students. To bring an outside guest SJCS students must turn in the outside guest form found [HERE](#). More information will be communicated in August. Questions? Contact SJCS HS Student Council Moderator, [Gabe Lewis](#).

**SJCS Dance Arrival/Departure Policy:** Safety and a positive environment are of prime importance at all SJCS dances. Students will not be admitted to the dance if they arrive more than 30 minutes after the published dance start time. Students will not be permitted to leave and come back or leave before the published end time unless an official SJCS dance chaperone has spoken to a parent by phone.

**Ladies Knight Out, September 18**

Mark your calendars now for this fun event! More information to follow.

**Tenth Grade Parent & Student Retreat Night, September 21**

For the past 4 years, St. Joseph's has hosted the 10th grade students and parents for a brief retreat, a time for parents and students to slow down for a few hours and reflect on the deeper questions that sometimes get lost in the business of life: why am I here and where am I going? What really matters to me and makes me truly happy? The 5th annual Sophomore Parent & Student Retreat will be an evening retreat on Friday, September 21 at Prince of Peace Catholic Church from 5:30-9:00 PM. All sophomores and their parents are expected to attend. Childcare will be offered for families with young children. Please mark your calendars for this day and plan on joining us. More information will be sent out via e-mail in August. Questions? Contact SJCS Campus Minister [Gabe Lewis](#).

**Ninth Grade Overnight Retreat, October 9-10**

The annual 9th grade overnight retreat will take place from 1:00 PM on Tuesday, October 9 until 1:00 PM on Wednesday, October 10 at Look Up Lodge in Travelers Rest, SC. All 9th grade students are required to attend. Students will not miss any class time for this retreat and are excused from athletic practice on Tuesday afternoon. More information will be sent to families via e-mail in September. Most transportation will be provided by SJCS, but some parent drivers will be needed. Questions or to volunteer to drive, contact SJCS Campus Minister [Gabe Lewis](#).

**Easter Break Travel, April 11-20, 2019**

*Their Darkest Hour, Dunkirk, Churchill, Band of Brothers, Anne Frank.* Come see in person what you may have only seen on the movie screen or read in a book! Travel to England, France, Belgium, and the Netherlands this Easter Break and walk in the footsteps of heroes. See Mrs. Neighbors or Mrs. Carr for more information, or click [HERE](#) and use the following code: TourCenter ID: Carr-855 to see the entire itinerary, pricing, and to sign up. Questions? Contact [Meby Carr](#).

**Updated Bell Schedule**

The 2018-2019 Bell Schedule has been adjusted. Click [HERE](#). Please pay particular attention to the fact that Mass will now be celebrated on Wednesdays, and the Study Help period has moved to Thursdays.

**School Supplies**

The MS supplies lists can be found [HERE](#) and on the Academics page of the website under Announcements. MS students should arrive the first full day of classes with their book bag, textbooks, and all supplies. There is no published list of HS supplies. HS 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.

**Lunch Coverage Needed for the Receptionist**

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

**Late Stay Program**

Parents may make arrangements with the school to participate in the Late Stay Program in the event they cannot pick up their child at the end of the school day. The program is available from 3:30-6:00 PM daily during regularly scheduled class days and from 1:45-6:00 PM on Wednesdays. Late stay charges of \$3.50 per hour (non-pro-rata) will be billed to the student's tuition and fees account and are due monthly. If your child will attend Late Stay, please fill out the Late Stay forms found [HERE](#).

**Mills Uniform Samples in the Front Office**

Since [Mills Uniform](#) is primarily 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. Also, if you find that you need a size that it not provided, please contact their customer service at 1-800-541-1850. Please note: Educational Outfitters uniform items may no longer be worn.

**Cafeteria Service & School Store**

Flik Dining Services provides cafeteria service during the day. 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, pizza, and Stromboli are served during Household on Wednesdays. Also, trays for Household snacks, Household lunches, and/or team meals are available for purchase. To see the options available for purchase, please click on the following links: [Household Lunch Options](#) and [Household Snack Options](#).

**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 for after-school. The store also stocks 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). Your child's account works like a debit card. You can apply funds through your My Backpack account or send a check to the business office marked "school store".

**Parent/Student Handbook for 2018-2019**

The Parent/Student handbook will be available on the SJCS website homepage in early August. All parents and students must read this and sign the form on the last page indicating they have done so. This form must be turned in during Orientation or the first day of school.

**Student Directories**

Student Directories are available through RenWeb. Information on how to access the directory can be found [HERE](#) under the Parent Resources/Forms and Links tab on the home page of our new website. Click on ParentsWeb Instructions/How to access the student directory.

**Orientation Schedule for Friday, August 17****Sixth & Ninth Grade Morning Orientation (ALL Sixth & Ninth Grade Students)**

Doors will open at 8:30 AM. Sixth Grade families should park in the back Middle School lot and check in at the Cafeteria Entrance. Ninth Grade families should park in the High School lot and check in at the High School Entrance

**Parent Schedule**

- 8:30-8:55 AM: Parents enter the school with their student, greet the household dean, and help students set up lockers. Current NHS & Beta Club students will be present to assist in this.
- 9:00-9:45 AM: All parents will attend a meeting in the John Paul II Center with Mr. Kiser.
- 9:45 AM: Parents will exit to the cafeteria, where they will be greeted by members of the Parents Guild. Stations will be set up, including the School Store, Business Office, RenWeb Update, Handbook form submission, and Health Form submission. When parents are done, they may leave campus. Sixth grade students will be dismissed at 11:15 AM and Ninth grade students will be dismissed at Noon.

**Sixth Grade Student Schedule**

- 8:30-9:00 AM: Students check in, go to household, and set up lockers
- 9:00-9:15 AM: Meet with Household Dean
- 9:15-10:45 AM: Walk through Bell Schedule.
- 10:45-11:15 AM: Students will report to the John Paul II Center for an assembly with Mr. Kiser and other staff members
- 11:15 AM: Dismissal from the Cafeteria door

**Ninth Grade Student Schedule**

- 8:30-9:00 AM: Students check in, go to household, and set up lockers
- 9:00-9:10 AM: Meet with Household Dean
- 9:10-9:15 AM: Meet with brother/sister Household in the sister Household room
- 9:15-10:45 AM: Walk through Bell Schedule
- 10:45-11:30 AM: Pick up Chromebook in Library
- 11:30-Noon: Students will report to the John Paul II Center for an assembly with Mr. Kiser and other staff members
- Noon: Dismissal from the High School entrance

**Afternoon Orientation for All New Students in Grades 7-8-10-11-12**

Doors will open at 12:30 PM. Seventh and Eighth Grade families should park in the back Middle School lot and check in at the Cafeteria Entrance. Tenth, Eleventh, and Twelfth Grade families should park in the High School lot and check in at the High School Entrance

**Parent Schedule**

- 12:30-1:00 PM: Students and parents should check in, go to Household, and set up their locker. Current NHS and Beta Club students will be present to assist in this.
- 1:00-1:45 PM: All parents will attend a meeting in the Meeting Room with Mr. Kiser. 1:45-2:15 PM: Parents will exit to the cafeteria, where stations will be set up, including the School Store, Business Office, RenWeb Update, Handbook Form submission, Senior Waiver Form submission, and Health Form submission.

**Student Schedule**

- 12:30-1:00 PM: Students check in, meet their Household Dean, and set up lockers
- 1:00-1:45 PM: Students will walk through their bell schedule; students in grades 8, 10, 11, and 12 will also pick up their Chromebooks at this time
- 1:45-2:15 PM: All students will report to the JP II Center for an assembly
- 2:15 PM: Dismissal

**Information for Returning Students****Locker Setup**

Returning students in grades 7, 8, 10, 11, and 12 will have the option of setting up their lockers on Friday, August 17 between 2:00-3:30 PM or on Monday, August 20, the first morning of school, between 7:30-7:50 AM. Student lists with locker numbers will be posted near the HS and MS entrances.

**Parking Pass Applications**

Parking Pass applications for juniors and seniors must be turned in either on Thursday, August 16 from 2:00-3:00 PM or on Friday, August 17 from 2:00-3:30 PM in the JP II Center.

**Chromebooks**

Chromebooks for returning students will be available for pick-up in the Library on Thursday, August 16 between 2:00-3:00 PM and Friday, August 17 between 2:00-3:30 PM. Any Chromebooks not picked up during this time must be picked up in the library by the end of school Monday, August 20.

### From the Academic Dean

Welcome to the 2018-19 academic year! As the newly installed Director of the High School, a new position at St. Joseph's that combines the Academic and Student Life dimensions of the high school experience into one office, I'm eager to begin my sixth year at St. Joseph's, and energized by the thought of working with students in a new capacity. Our commitment to academic excellence and an enriching experience for all of our students is unchanged, and it is toward those goals that we direct all of our energies.

Along those lines, I've just finished an interesting book about the lives of today's high school students. *iGen*, written by Jean Twenge from San Diego State University, is an extremely well-researched book about how teenagers experience (and construct) the world they live in every day. It's a great read, full of charts and graphs that are worth a few minutes of time from any parent. A lot of it confirms what many of us have observed, that the majority of our kids' social time is mediated through technology. These tools can be great for keeping people in contact (I text with my own kids all the time), but Twenge also contends that electronically maintained relationships are broad, but *can be* shallow. She documents, in considerable detail, the correlation between screen time (games and social media primarily) and the decline in student mental health. The causal relationships are difficult to pinpoint, but over and over again we see that increased screen time, especially on social media, increases anxiety, social isolation, and depression. I'm not sure I see eye-to-eye with Professor Twenge on everything, and I think a more in-depth look at the positive aspects of social media is a necessary next step. Still, it's a sobering read.

One of the primary takeaways is that we should do all we can to promote stronger, affirmative relationships among our students. That's something we want to encourage at every level, and it's one of the strengths of St. Joseph's. Smaller class sizes, the household program, campus ministry, all of these work together to foster positive relationships, which, not surprisingly, also contribute to academic development. A focus on the development of the whole person, positive relationships, rigorous intellectual development...these are not just things St. Joseph's offers. The environment that makes all this possible is what we all make with and for one another. The real beauty of St. Joseph's is not something that one group of people provides for another to consume. It's what all of us together build and model in Greenville. I very much look forward to another year of building a great school with all of you.

### From the Tech Services Department

#### Chromebook Information

- All 8th-12th graders will be receiving Chromebooks for the 2018-2019 school year. Chromebooks will be picked up during Student Orientation on Friday, August 17.
- Chromebook insurance information will be emailed to parents in August. The annual \$50 insurance fee will be billed to your account in August. The electronic insurance form must be submitted before students can pick up their Chromebook.
- The Chromebook insurance form can be found [HERE](#).

#### New Student Email Address & Lunch Numbers

Students new to SJCS for the 2018-2019 school year will receive emails over the summer with information regarding their SJCS email address, lunch numbers, and other important information.

### From the Athletic Department

#### **Knights Athletic Booster Club**

The Knights Athletic Booster Club is an ALL-SPORTS booster club providing support for ALL athletic teams at SJCS in cooperation with the school administration, Athletic Director, and the Board of Trustees. In the 2017-2018 academic year, we provided over \$50,000 of unfunded items for our athletic teams, including the new stadium score board, weight lifting and training room floor, end zone camera system, championship banners, coaches' spirit wear, and coaches' appreciation dinner. Parents are encouraged to help raise funds to support our athletes and teams by becoming members of the Knights Athletic Booster Club. We would like to welcome any parent to become a member of the Athletic Booster Club Board. It is a great way to meet fellow families at St. Joseph's. If interested, please contact [Gary Walajtys](#).

Below are the new membership levels for 2018-2019:

- BLUE (\$100 donation): 1 Key Tag (entry to regular non-playoff season SJCS home games for 1 person)
- SILVER (\$200 donation): 2 Key Tags (entry to regular non-playoff season SJCS home games for 2 people)
- GOLD (\$500 donation): 4 Key Tags (entry to regular non-playoff season SJCS home games for 4 people), VIP parking pass at the front lot near the Burgess Hall entrance during football season. This is a wonderful place for football tailgating, reconnecting with friends, and meeting new members of the SJCS community
- PLATINUM (\$850 donation): 6 Key Tags (entry to regular non-playoff season SJCS home games for 6 people), VIP Parking Pass, Spirit Basket, and Name/Company Recognition on Poster at Press Box in Stadium and in the Gym

Please consider joining the Knights Booster Club. You can join the Knights Booster Club online by clicking [HERE](#) or print and fill out this [form](#) and send it in with a check payable to SJCS to the front office. Be sure to put Knights Athletic Booster Club in the memo of the check. Questions? Email [Gidge Marchant](#). Thank you for your support!!

#### **Knights Athletic Booster Club Board Members for 2018-2019**

The Knights Athletic Booster Club Board Members for 2018-2019 are: Gary Walajtys (President), Michael Pace (Vice President), Joe Harvey (Treasurer), Blair Bailey (Secretary), Rosalyn Sahlman (Team Mom Coordinator), Gidge Marchant (Membership Co-chair), Stacy Covington (Membership Co-chair), Jill Berning (Fall Concessions), James Speed (Fall Concessions), John Covington (Sign Program Co-chair), Katie Martin (Sign Program Support).

#### **Athletic Venue Banners 2018-2019**

The Development Office, in conjunction with the Knights Athletic Booster Club, is looking for advertising sponsors for this year's athletic venues. We are offering business sponsorship opportunities to display company-logoed banners for all athletic facilities. We have several levels to choose from to meet your budget. All proceeds will go toward athletic facilities and equipment. If you are interested or know someone who would be interested, please contact [Katie Martin](#) or see the [Athletic Sponsorship form](#) on the school website.

### From the School Nurse

#### **Immunizations**

Each student must have a SC Certificate of Immunization on file at the school. Out-of-state transfers should take copies of their current immunization records to the local Health Department for transcription to the correct form. Rising 7th graders must have documentation (DHEC Form 1148 or 2740) of having received Tdap on or after their 7th birthday in order to attend class in SC for the 2018-2019 school year.

#### **Emergency Contact, Event /Field Trip Permission, and Medical Information Form**

Emergency Contact, Event/Field Trip Permission, and Medical Information Forms for the 2018-2019 school year are due by August 1. All students are required to turn in an updated form each year. Please note that this form is not available to submit online, but can found [HERE](#). Please turn them in to the front office to the attention of Katy McClintock, School Nurse.

## From the Fine Arts Department

### 24-Hour Theatre Extravaganza & Student-produced Films, August 17-18

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 8<sup>th</sup> grader and older) can be involved in this event, beginning at 6:00 PM on Friday, August 17. The event will culminate with a performance of these plays at 7:00 PM on Saturday, August 18.
- 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 Friday, August 10 and the deadline for submitting student-produced films is Monday, August 13.
- Visit the links for more information: for a list of role descriptions and tentative timeline of events, click [HERE](#); to sign up to be a part of the event, click [HERE](#) (register by August 10); guidelines for student-produced films, click [HERE](#) (films due August 13). Questions or want to be a parent volunteer? Contact [Teresa McGrath](#).
- The final performances of the 24-Hour Theatre Extravaganza will be on Saturday, August 18 at 7:00 PM. Tickets may be purchased [HERE](#) ahead of time at the discounted price of \$8. Online ticket sales will close at Noon on August 18. Tickets will be \$10 per person at the door. All tickets include a coupon for one free Concession item.
- All tickets are General Admission and doors will open to Jubilate Arts Guild members only at 6:30 PM, followed by general admission at 6:45 PM. Be sure to pick up your Jubilate Arts Guild member tag at check-in. Additionally, the Fine Arts Department decals 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 the survey found [HERE](#).
- Be sure to participate in the vote by Thursday, August 16 to help determine which elements will be required and then join us at the show on Saturday, August 18 to see which elements were included!

### 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

### Jubilate Arts Guild

- Please support the Fine Arts Department by joining the Jubilate Arts Guild. With membership support this past year, we were able to purchase several items to benefit the department, including sheet music, keyboard, orchestra bells, tap shoes, baritone, percussion instruments, choral risers, microphone rack, conductor podium and stand, and supported community art projects including a mural for Catholic Charities and the SJCS 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary mural.
- Membership benefits and levels for 2018-2019 can be found on the Membership Form [HERE](#).
- The Jubilate Arts Guild Council is in need of volunteers for the 2018-2019 school year, specifically for Vice President and Publicity Chair. Questions? Contact Jubilate Arts Guild President, [Ann Canello](#) to find out how you can support our Fine Arts students and teachers. Also, be on the lookout for information regarding our annual Christmas Wreath Sale this October!

### Jubilate Knight for the Arts 2019

Mark your calendars for our Fine Arts Department's annual talent competition, Jubilate Knight for the Arts, on Saturday, May 11, 2019.

## From the Academic Support Services & College Counseling Office

### HS College Counseling Meetings for 2018 - 2019

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 in the JP II Center and will last about one hour. Please note the meeting dates for the year:

- Seniors: September 6, 2018
- Juniors: February 5, 2019
- Sophomores and Freshman: February 7, 2019

There will also be a special Financial Aid Night for Senior Families on October 2 at 7:00 PM in the Meeting Room as well as course scheduling meetings for Freshmen and Sophomore families in the spring.

### Middle School Schedules

MS scheduling is still in process. Please disregard any MS schedule information you may see on ParentsWeb before school begins. Students will receive their final schedules on Orientation Day. Eighth grade parents will be contacted via email by Mrs. Broering concerning their foreign language placement when their schedules are complete. MS questions may be directed to [Melissa Broering](#).

### High School Class Schedules

All HS schedules are available on Parents Web. You should have received an email announcing the availability of schedules and instructions for any change requests. Beginning August 1, no requests for schedule changes will be honored until the Add/Drop period which is August 20-29. Exceptions will be made only for students who have an incomplete schedule (less than 6 classes) or an error in the core classes assigned. Please Note: New student Household assignments and all student locker assignments will be available at Orientation on August 17.

### To Access ParentsWeb

The link to access the ParentsWeb Instructions can be found [here](#). At the bottom of this page, under the section for "ParentsWeb" is the tab for "ParentsWeb Instructions".

## From the Business Office

### Tuition Accounts

- July tuition statements were posted to the billing portal, My Backpack, in July. Plan A and B payments are due by July 31 in order to be eligible to receive the early payment discount. Plan C or D tuition payments were drafted from bank accounts on July 10. If you have chosen Plan C or D for your tuition plan and have not turned your draft information into the Business Office, please do so as soon as possible. If you are on Plan C or D, July's tuition payment was due July 10 and should be paid immediately to avoid a late fee. If you need to change your draft information, we must receive this change notice in the Business Office by the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month in order to change the draft for the succeeding month.
- Tuition drafts do not include miscellaneous fees such as late stay or field trips. Miscellaneous fees and charges can be paid by check or online using the My Backpack portal.
- Each family possesses a debit account for school store purchases. Payments can be made by cash or check to the front office or online [HERE](#). In addition, each student has a debit account for cafeteria purchases. Payments can be made by cash or check to the front office or online at [HERE](#).
- If you have questions about your tuition account, or need to change your draft information, please contact [Lisa Lawrence](#).

## 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 [Mary Ellen Bradley](#) or any of the other board members.

### Parents Guild Board 2018-2019

The Parents Guild Board members for the year are [Catherine Puckett](#) (President), [Mary Ellen Bradley](#) (Vice President - Parent Engagement), [Jackie Zannino](#) (Vice President - Ways and Means), [Rita Taylor](#) (Treasurer), [Anne Stein](#) (Secretary), [Aimee Loneragan](#) (High School Representative) and [Kimberly Masters](#) (Middle School Representative). Please contact any board member with ideas or questions.

### No-Cost Fundraisers

Please visit the Parents Guild page on the SJCS website to learn ways to participate in no-cost fundraising program for 2018-2019. These include Publix, Box Tops for Education, and Recycle Electronics.

### School Store

Volunteers are needed to operate the school store. This is open to all MS and HS parents who are looking for a great way to meet other parents and engage with the students during the school day. The school store is open every day before school, at all lunch periods, and after school.

- Monday-Friday from 7:30-8:00 AM (before school)
- Monday, Tuesday, and Friday from 10:30 AM-12:15 PM (MS & HS lunch)
- Thursday from 10:30-12:35 PM (MS & HS lunch)
- Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday from 3:00-3:30 PM (after school)
- Wednesday from 1:15-1:45 PM (after school)

If you are interested or would like more information about working in the school store, please contact [Erica Walajtys](#) or [Jill Wagner](#).

### School Store Accounts

If you would like to add money to your child's school store account, payments must be made either through the Business Office or through MyBackPack. Account deposits cannot be made at the school store.

### Spirit Wear

The school store will have official SJCS outerwear and spirit wear available for purchase. This year's designs will feature items such as stadium chairs, blankets, t-shirts, hoodies, sweatshirts, and more. Look for our online Spirit Wear sale email coming soon!

### Used Uniforms

Please donate any gently used uniform pieces by dropping them off at the front desk. These will be used in the next Used Uniform Sale!

### From the Development Office

#### **Volunteer Opportunities**

St. Joseph's depends on parent volunteers each and every year. 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 Guild (Fine Arts Boosters), Gala, and Campus Ministry. We look forward to serving with you!

#### **Annual Fund**

Our goal this fiscal year (July 2018–June 2019) is to engage the financial support of 100% of our school families, faculty, and staff in giving to the Annual Fund. Last fiscal year, 66% of our school families gave to the Annual Fund, including an impressive 78% of our 6<sup>th</sup> grade families! 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 \$475,000. Please contact [Kevin Meyer](#) with any questions, and download your [Annual Fund Donation Form](#) today!