From the Desk of the Headmaster

“You have been told, O mortal, what is good, and what the Lord requires of you:
Only to do justice and to love goodness, and to walk humbly with your God.”
Micah 6:8

Welcome to the 2020-2021 School Year!

The faculty, staff, and I are looking forward to the return of students for in-person education on August 24. We are doing our very best to think through every situation to ensure a safe return to school for students and teachers alike. Among the items we have been working on is finalizing the daily bell schedule to accommodate safety precautions, such as adding time between classes to allow for a staggered release of students to cut down on the number of students in the halls. We have also looked for ways to reduce occasions when students will need to be gathered in large groups and for how we can eliminate unstructured times during the day when it will be hard to keep students physically distanced.

With these things in mind, see the Need to Know section of this edition of News and Notes for details on changed dismissal times and various schedule changes. Of course, late stay will be available every day after school for those who need to pick up children after work.

As I mentioned in our reopening document on July 23, resuming in-person education safely is going to require the cooperation and transparency of all school families. This includes making a commitment to follow DHEC, CDC, and school guidelines for limiting transmission as well as quarantining for those who have been in close contact with the disease. To that end, we are requiring all families to sign the SJCS Family Agreement (to be posted on the website at a later date) as an expression of our solidarity and commitment to work together to keep our students and teachers as safe as possible. Also, I am happy to report that Dr. Laure Utech has agreed to be the school’s COVID-19 Contact Tracer. It’s imperative that you contact her should you have an actual or potential exposure to report. She can be reached by email at contacttracer@sjcatholicschool.org.

As I mentioned in a communication earlier this summer, one of the more poignant and instructive moments for me during the pandemic involved watching the evening prayer service that Pope Francis held in an empty St. Peter’s Square during which he encouraged us not to miss the opportunities of these days. One SJCS parent told me, for example, that her family rediscovered the joy of being a family again through being forced to slow down and stay at home. While she knows her children need to be in school, she’s not looking forward to the return of overly full schedules that will crowd out family dinners and spending time pursuing interests together. I’m wondering what you have discovered during the pandemic regarding what is essential for living. I’ve created a Google Doc where you can share your stories and insights with me if you’d like. I’m collecting them because I’d like to know what’s important to our school community as we seek to better support our families.

Then, of course, in the midst of the pandemic, protests erupted in cities big and small across our country in response to the horrific and brutal killings of police officers of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, and Rayshard Brooks to name a few. We all watched the videos with horror and sorrow, wondering how this can still be happening and what can stem the tide of the hate, violence, and racism that persists in our land. In the wake of these events, I received a deeply moving letter written by four very thoughtful SJCS graduates from the Class of 2018 (and signed by many others) asking how their alma mater intends to join in the struggle to end systemic racism in our country. The exceptionally
well-written letter provided suggestions for steps SJCS could take to help all its students feel welcomed, understood, and embraced in our school community.

Here, I want to say unequivocally and emphatically that St. Joseph’s Catholic School is committed to fighting against racism in all of its forms, including those ways that might unwittingly exist in our own systems and school community. You will hear more about this as the year unfolds for the Board of Trustees has taken up this issue as a priority goal for the year. As a Catholic institution that aspires to educate students prepared to change the world for the better, we simply cannot be silent on these matters. For now, I simply want to remind our community that St. Joseph’s Catholic School:

• **Affirms** the full dignity of every human being without respect to race, ethnicity, socio-economic status, religion, age, ability, and gender.
• **Welcomes** students from all over the Upstate as full and equal members of our community.
• **Embraces** equity and inclusion as goals not just for our school, but as critical components of our identity and mission as a Catholic school.

In thinking, reading, and praying about all of these matters this summer, I have decided to choose Micah 6:8 for the theme for the year: *Do justice, love goodness, and walk humbly with your God.* This verse, which coincidentally is Bishop Guglielmone’s motto and was quoted in the aforementioned letter from our graduates, is the centerpiece of the United States’ Catholic Bishops 2018 letter: “Open Wide Our Hearts: The Call to Love – a Pastoral Response to Racism”. The faculty and staff will study and discuss this letter throughout the year as we discern how God is calling us to foster a broader cultural awareness in our school, examine our policies and practices, and expand our curriculum and academic resources (including personnel) to ensure that the inherent dignity and equality of every human being is affirmed through everything we teach and do as a school community.

This theme verse also has implications for how we approach living with COVID-19 still among us. Justice, goodness, and humility are virtues that if practiced will help us to keep one another as safe as possible as we navigate in-person life together. Micah 6:8 will be front and center on this year’s annual poster, which features four saints we have chosen as patrons of our household program: St. Josephine Bakhita, St. Gianna Molla, St. Katherine Drexel, and St. Oscar Romero. We spent the better part of the spring and summer organizing our households into four extended household families. You and the students will be learning more about these changes from Student Activities Director Keitt Brice. For now, I simply wanted to point out that each of the four houses has been assigned a patron saint. St. Joseph’s art teacher, Anne Meyer, has generously used her talents to include the images of all four of these saints on this year’s theme poster to be revealed at the start of school.

Finally, I want to update you on changes to our faculty and staff for the 2020-2021 school year. As is the case each year, we say goodbye to teachers who are leaving us and welcome new members to our staff. It is sad to think that Joanna McLucas, of course, won’t be with us when we return to school in August due to her retirement after 22 years at St. Joseph’s. Let’s remember to keep her and her husband, who is battling a serious illness, in our prayers. Sarah Wicker, Tim Brady, Josh Reynolds, and Rachel Mantelli are also not returning to St. Joseph’s for the new school year. I am grateful to these teachers for the many positive ways they impacted and inspired our students during their years at St. Joseph’s. May God abundantly grant them His blessings in their new endeavors. Michele Houmis is also not returning for the start of the school year. She is on Family Medical Leave in order to care for her mother who is seriously ill in New Jersey.

While it is always difficult to say goodbye, I am excited to welcome our newest faculty members:

**Sister Lucita Bacat**, C.S.JB. has been hired to be the school’s new geometry teacher. Sister Lucita has the distinction of being the first nun on the faculty of St. Joseph’s Catholic School. Sister’s extensive education includes a Ph.D. in Supervision and Administration from Manhattan College, an MS in Secondary Education from St. John's University, and a BS in Mathematics from the College of St. Vincent. She comes to us from Cardinal Newman School in Columbia where she was a highly regarded and beloved math and theology teacher.

**Caroline Kane** joins our staff as the new 7th grade science teacher. She’s replacing Elizabeth Duncan, who is moving to the high school to take over Mrs. McLucas’ electives. Caroline is a recent graduate of NC State with a BS in Science Education with a concentration in Chemistry. She is newly married (in July) and is excited to begin her teaching career and new life in Greenville.
Jacob Martin is a graduate of Furman University where he holds a degree in music in cello performance. Jacob will be the school’s new strings teacher. He has also earned a Master of Arts-Music at Bob Jones University and has done post-graduate course work at the University of Georgia in opera performance, where he was a resident baritone. Jacob has been a private strings teacher. He is following in the footsteps of his mother who has been a long time strings teacher in Greenville County schools.

Tyler Smith is the school’s new strength and conditioning coach and PE teacher. Tyler is a graduate of SC State University with a Bachelor of Science in physical activity management. Tyler played football for SC State, making a national playoff appearance in 2013. He comes to us from the University of South Carolina where he was a strength and conditioning intern. He has also coached at several schools in the Columbia area.

I want to thank you for entrusting your children’s education to St. Joseph’s Catholic School. I ask that you please make a special point of remembering the school’s students, teachers, and leadership in your prayers this year. May God grant us the wisdom, understanding, patience, and guidance of His Holy Spirit in all the decisions we will be making this year.

In closing, please join us in praying for the following member of the SJCS family: for student Hector Melendez on the passing of his father.

With love and prayers,
Keith Kiser
Headmaster

**Things You Need To Know**

**Faculty/Staff Orientation, August 10-21**
Faculty/Staff Orientation begins August 10 and continues intermittently through August 21. 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.

**College Application Workshop for Seniors, August 11-12**
The College Counseling Office will be conducting a free College Application Workshop August 11-12, from 2:30-4:30 PM. This workshop is for students only. We will be focusing on 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. Students should register through the link sent by the College Counseling Office at the end of July.

**Student Orientation, August 24 & 25**
Orientation for new and returning students still happen as part of the school day on August 24 and 25. Families should expect to receive an email with information in mid-August.

**Chromebook Pickup, August 24 & 25**
Chromebook pickup for grades 6-12 will take place on the first two days of school, August 24-25.

**HS Course Add/Drop Period, August 24-September 4**
Students may request schedule changes during the Add/Drop period of August 24-September 4. **BEFORE requesting any schedule change, students and parents should review the Schedule Change Policies pertaining to Add/Drop on page 5 of the 2020-2021 High School Course Catalog.** Add/Drop forms will be available through the College Counseling Office.

**Yearbook Pictures, August 31 & September 1**
Dress uniforms are required all day for grades 6 - 11 for yearbook photos on Monday, August 31 and Tuesday, September 1. 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.

**High School Fall Play Auditions**
Auditions for the HS Fall Play will be at the end of August. These auditions are open to all HS students. More information will be available in August. Questions? Contact Fine Arts Director, Teresa McGrath.
**High School Youth in Government (HS YIG) Applications Available at the end of August**

HS YIG applications will be available at the end of August for students interested in YIG who have not participated with St Joseph’s in previous years. This includes all 9th grade students, even if you participated in SJCS MS YIG. Returning YIG delegates will receive an interest survey. The conference will be held in the spring this year, but there will be training and workshop programs in the fall. Questions? Contact Meby Carr.

**Senior & Parents College Meeting in September**

Our annual meeting for seniors and their parents will be held in early September. Specific details regarding this event will be emailed to senior families as soon as the details are finalized.

**Labor Day, September 7**

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

**Bell Schedule Beginning September 8**

- On September 8, our intent is to have the whole student body on campus for five-day a week instruction. A detailed bell schedule will be available on the website the week of August 17, but we did want to let you know about two important changes now.
- We have moved our dismissal time up on Wednesday to 12:05 PM. This is because we will not have a mandatory All-School Mass on Wednesday mornings as long as large group gatherings are discouraged during the pandemic. Instead we will offer an optional Mass or prayer service each Wednesday afternoon beginning at 12:15 PM for those who would like to stay.
- The other significant change is that we have moved the Study Help period on Thursdays to the end of the day. Any student who drives may fill out the waiver (to be posted on the website a later date) if they wish to have the option to leave at 1:55 PM on Thursdays. Parents who wish to pick up their non-driving students early may do so through the front office by following the usual early dismissal protocol.
- Late stay will still be available until 6:00 PM every day after school for those who need to pick up children after work.

**HS Fine Arts Coffeehouse, September 18**

The first Coffeehouse of the school year, sponsored by the Fine Arts Department and the Jubilate Arts Guild is currently scheduled for Friday, September 18 from 5:00–7:00 PM. Plan for an evening of coffee, fellowship, and open-mic entertainment. More details regarding this event will be available in the September News & Notes.

**Student ID Cards**

All students will be required to wear their ID cards at all times this year. The school will provide students with their first lanyard.

**Summer Reading**

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: MS Summer Reading and HS Summer Reading.

**Textbook List**

For a complete list, please click on the following links: MS Textbook List and HS Textbook List.

**Middle School Schedules**

MS scheduling is still in process. Please disregard any MS schedule information you may see on the FACTS Family Portal before school begins. Students will receive their final schedules on their Orientation Day. Eighth grade parents will be contacted via email by Mrs. Broering concerning their World Language placement when their schedules are complete. MS questions? Contact Melissa Broering.

**Middle School Supplies**

The MS supplies lists can be found on the homepage of the school website. MS students should arrive the first day of classes with their bookbag, 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 bookbag, 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.
**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. If these were forms were not uploaded to FACTS during the enrollment process in the spring, then they should be emailed to Karen Miros. To receive a pass on the first day of school, this form must be submitted by 4:00 PM on August 13. 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.

**Cafeteria Service**
Flik Dining Services provides cafeteria service for St. Joseph’s. Please see [this letter](#) for information regarding Flik’s plan for the re-opening of our cafeteria. More details will be provided as they are available.

**School Store**
Due to the current pandemic, the opening of the School Store will be delayed. We will re-open the store as soon as we can safely do so. Until that time, students will be able to purchase a limited number of items such as locker accessories and St. Joseph’s logo items online. An email with purchase details will be forthcoming.

**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.

**Lands’ End Uniform Samples in the Front Office**
Lands’ End is now 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 Jennifer DeForest to schedule a time to come in.

**Student Directories**
Student Directories are available through FACTS. 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 FACTS Instructions/How to access the student directory.

**NEW! Change Regarding Outerwear**
We announced in June that with the change to using Lands’ End as a uniform provider, only Lands’ End outerwear would be permitted as part of the casual uniform. However, due to the many changes our students are experiencing this year, we have decided to still allow non-Lands’ End outerwear for **this year only** (it must still be school-approved outerwear, eg SJCS athletic sweatshirts). Beginning with the 2021-2022 school year, **only** Lands’ End outerwear will be permitted to be worn as part of the casual uniform.

**Spring Break 2021 Trip Postponed**
The 2021 Spring break trip to Great Britain has been postponed until Spring 2022. Questions? Please contact Jennie Neighbors.
From the Middle School Director

Transformation and an Imperfection

I spend a lot of time praying for our St. Joseph's Catholic School community. I see it as an essential and integral part of my leadership responsibility. Since early March, I have been praying specifically for our continued transformation - a transformation that is an ever-responsive reworking to meet the needs of our students, our families, our community, and our faith. It has been said many times to be careful what you pray for, because your prayer just might be answered.

The pandemic engaged the “pause” button on life as some things came to a screeching halt. Other things ramped up so quickly that “fast forward” might be a more accurate depiction of what was happening. Between pause, fast-forward - and all the stages in between - change is happening, and change is here. So if the transformation I prayed for means we need to rethink and rework how we provide a St. Joseph’s education that truly meets the needs of our students, our families, our community, and our faith, then I think my prayer is being answered. And while many say this is not a great way to begin a school year - it’s not normal, it’s not perfect - maybe we can agree, considering all that has transpired, that our understanding of normal and perfect could stand some reworking.

Our community is rooted in a deep faith and trust in Christ. I am confident that in working together, we will be successful in delivering the exceptional education that is the hallmark of St. Joseph’s Catholic School. We are stronger together than we are alone. I will continue to pray for transformation - a transformation that will continue with the hope and the love to which we are called.

“The future is in your hearts and in your hands. God is entrusting to you the task, at once difficult and uplifting, of working with Him in the building of the civilization of love.” - Saint Pope John Paul II

From the High School Director

Looking ahead.

I spend a lot of my time working on things that I didn’t know were going to be part of my day until they happen. Seen in a certain light, we have about 430 “clients” in the high school, and we see all of them, every day. In that kind of environment, the immediate here and now demand a lot of attention. Part of my job, however, is to look ahead and see where we might be in a few months, and more importantly a few years. The present crisis has brought a lot of uncertainty, but one thing I am very confident in is the dedication of our community to advancing our mission no matter the circumstances. Our world needs it, our students deserve it, and we will deliver.

In thinking about the future, though, it’s easy to focus so much on what the conditions might be like at the time or how we can leverage technology to enhance our mission. These are important considerations, but more and more I’m reminded about the importance of the ‘timeless’ virtues that are the bedrock of our philosophy of formation. No matter what setting you find yourself in, integrity matters. Self-discipline matters. Recognizing and respecting the dignity of another person matters. These are the building blocks of St. Joseph’s formation, and our emphasis on them must be laser-like in our focus.

A few weeks ago, I was watching a YouTube video that my sons wanted me to see. It was about this guy who built an obstacle course for squirrels in his backyard. (I hesitate to admit that, but hear me out. The guy who built the course is a former NASA engineer...he helped design and build the Mars Rover!) One of the elements was a catapult of sorts, and he was explaining how squirrels always land on their feet. His slow-motion video really captures how within half-seconds of being unexpectedly catapulted into the air, a squirrel will lock their vision on a landing spot and never deviate from that course.

There’s a serious lesson there that I think our community put into practice this past spring. Our teachers and students never lost sight of what their goals were, so even with the instability of the shutdown and the quarantine we’re landing in our target zone. Was it always graceful? Probably not. But your students are prepared for the next level of their education. Will we have to adapt some this coming year? I’m sure we will. But the same principles that have served us well for over 25 years and through these last few months will serve us again in our mission next year.
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 Kimberly Masters or any of the other board members.

Parents Guild Board 2020-2021
The Parents Guild Board members for the year are Aimee Lonergan (President), Kimberly Masters (Vice President-Parent Engagement), Rebecca Feldman (Vice President-Ways and Means), Monica Dodge (Treasurer), Anne Stein (Secretary), Jill Sullivan (HS Representative) and Christine Elder (MS Representative). Please contact any board member with ideas or questions.

Attractions Book Fundraiser
The Attractions Book sale is back and will be September 9-30. There are TONS of coupons and savings in one small book! The money raised 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.

No-Cost Fundraisers
Please visit the Parents Guild page on the SJCS website HERE to learn ways to participate in no-cost fundraising program for 2020-2021. These include Publix, Box Tops for Education, and Amazon.

Box Tops - No More Clipping. 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.

School Store
Volunteers are needed to operate the School Store (once it reopens). 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. If you are interested or would like more information about working in the School Store, please contact Lisa Hunicutt or Jackie Zannino. When open, the School Store is open every day before school, at all lunch periods, and after school.
- Monday-Friday: 7:30-8:00 AM (before school)
- Monday, Tuesday, and Friday: 10:30 AM-12:15 PM (MS & HS lunch)
- Thursday: 10:30 AM-12:35 PM (MS & HS lunch)
- Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday: 3:00-3:30 PM (after school)
- Wednesday: 12:05-12:35 PM (after school)
If you would like to load a balance onto 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
Drop off any gently used uniform pieces at the front desk to be used in the next Used Uniform Sale.
From the Development Office

Annual Fund
The Annual Fund provides approximately 6% of the school’s budget that is not covered by tuition. Our goal this fiscal year (July 2020 – June 2021) is to engage the financial support of 100% of our school families, faculty, and staff in giving to the Annual Fund. 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 $500,000. We will track participation numbers by grade level throughout the year. You can make a gift to the Annual Fund by downloading an Annual Fund Donation Form or giving online today! Please contact Kevin Meyer with any questions.

From the Fine Arts Department

Sixth Grade Band Instrument Selection at Musical Innovations
For any incoming 6th grade student interested in joining the Band ensemble and missed attending the summer Instrument Fairs, Musical Innovations is providing a free service for individual instrument and mouthpiece testing. They are also available to discuss options in leasing/purchasing an instrument or evaluating a currently-owned instrument for playing conditions. Contact Musical Innovations directly to set up an appointment: 864-286-8742. The location is 150 Tanner Rd., Greenville, SC 29607. Any other questions can be directed to SJCS Band Director, Marjorie Malphrus.

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 for the choral, band, and strings ensembles, instrument repairs and accessories for band and strings instruments, cymbal and stand, conductor’s stand, accompanists for semester concerts, portable display boards for the Art shows, and provided funds for a music subscription for dance classes and travel for theatre, band, and choral conferences.
• Membership benefits and levels for 2020-2021 can be found on the Jubilate Arts Guild Membership Form.
• The Jubilate Arts Guild is in need of officers for the 2020-2021 school year, specifically for Secretary, Membership Coordinator, Sponsorship/Program Ads, Tech Week Meals, Concession Coordinator, Ways and Means. Questions? Contact Jubilate Arts Guild President, Amanda Warlick, to find out how you can support our Fine Arts students and teachers.
• Be on the lookout for information regarding our annual Christmas Wreath sale in October!

Jubilate Knight for the Arts 2021
This year’s Jubilate Knight for the Arts was epic with many firsts as we enjoyed six nights of our successful “virtual” event. This year’s event will be moving to January and we hope that you will mark your calendar now for the St. Joe’s Got Talent Jubilate Knight for the Arts on Saturday, January 23. We look forward to showcasing more great talent from our students, faculty, staff, and alumni, as well as see what other firsts we can include this year. If you are interested in sharing your talents to help volunteer and plan this great annual event, please contact Christine Balts.
**From the Business Office**

**Tuition Accounts**
St. Joseph’s uses FACTS for all tuition and incidental billing. You can access FACTS through your Family Portal. Using the FACTS portal, you will be able to see balance details and arrange for payment. If you have questions about your tuition account, please contact Ann Gushue.

**From the Academic Support Services & College Counseling Office**

**College Counseling Meetings for 2020 - 2021**
The College Counseling Office will be offering meetings for all high school grade levels. Senior meetings include meetings regarding the College Application Process and Financial Aid and are held in the early fall. Junior meetings are held in early February and individual family meetings are scheduled at various times and dates throughout the spring. Meetings for Freshman and Sophomore families are held in early February and individual course scheduling meetings for Freshman and Sophomore families are in the spring. Specific dates and sign up links will be emailed to families during second semester. The College Counseling Office will be sending out additional information regarding all of these meetings once the school year has begun.

**High School Class Schedule**
All HS schedules are available in FACTS Family Portal. Emails were sent out in July announcing the availability of schedules and instructions for any necessary schedule changes. Any schedule change requests received after July 31 will be processed during the designated fall Add/Drop period August 24-September 4. Exceptions will only be made for students who have an incomplete schedule (i.e. less than 6 classes or too many study halls) or an error in the core classes assigned. Any requests made by seniors must first be reviewed by their College Counselor.

**To Access FACTS Family Portal**
To access the FACTS Family Portal through the SJCS homepage, select Students & Parents in the upper right corner and scroll down to the bottom of the page for instructions. For direct access to the login page, please go to Family Portal login, and enter your username and password.
From the Athletic Department

Fall Sports First Day of Tryouts/Practice
An email from the Athletic Director will be sent out soon with a list of tryout dates and practice times. For a full list of fall coaches and contact information, click HERE.

Sports Participation Requirements
Any student participating in a sport at SJCS for the 2020-2021 school year must have a physical dated after April 1, 2020 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 participation 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 PlanetHS found HERE. The updated forms and information on how to create the parent and student login at Planet HS can be found HERE. Look for the Athletics box. Be sure to type St. Joseph's Catholic School in the search line when looking for our school.

The Knights Booster Club
We invite everyone to join the Knights Booster Club to support our student-athletes. You can join the Knights Booster Club HERE. The Knights Booster Club is reaching for a goal of 100% participation this year. Every year the Knights Booster Club raises money and works directly with our Athletic Director, Eric Nash, to supplement the athletic budget to better serve our student-athletes. In past school years, the Booster Club has helped purchase items like: new chairs for the gym, new baseball and football scoreboard, storage system for athletic uniforms, and new flooring and weights for the weight room. The boosters will continue hosting all of the coaches and their spouses at a wonderful dinner to celebrate their dedication and commitment to making their respective programs the best that they can be. New this year! Look for the Booster Club tailgate tent next to Booster Club Parking at the front of the school. Bring your tailgate goodies and join your fellow Booster members for fun and fellowship prior to each football game. We will be selling memberships and spirit wear at this location too. Also, we would like to welcome the new booster club board officers for the 2020-2021 school year: Blair Bailey (President), Ben Renfrow (Vice President), Jonathan Norwood (Treasurer), Roslyn Sahlman (Secretary), Casey Velky (Team Parent Coordinator), Kelly Gillespie (Membership), Jason Okuley (Concessions), and Joel Poinsette (Sign Program).