



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!

Well, we almost made it to the end of the first semester without moving to virtual education. Darn! I am sure that you are as disappointed as I am that we had to take a break from in-person education. Thank you for your cooperation, understanding, and patience with this decision.

Without going into details, it looked as if circumstances were such that a wider spread was possible if not likely amongst the students. To avoid that, we felt it necessary to pivot to virtual learning briefly in order to give us the opportunity to take a closer look at our protocols and classrooms. In addition to looking for ways to keep students healthy, we were also seeking solutions in order to keep the numbers we have to quarantine to a minimum when a student does test positive. As it was, one positive case was resulting in another 15 to 20 students who would need to be quarantined for two weeks because they were in close contact either in a classroom, at lunch, or in a school activity.

Therefore, Mrs. Jaraczewski and Dr. Jones took the opportunity of not having students in the building to go into every classroom to see how we might better use our space. We've come to the conclusion that with some creative desk placement and the addition of vinyl shields between the desks that are closer than six feet that not only will students be kept safer, but there will also be far fewer students who will need to quarantine when a student tests positive.

So, with these changes, we are returning to full in-person learning on the Monday after Thanksgiving, November 30. Speaking of Thanksgiving, please do what you can to eliminate potential COVID-19 exposure during the holidays. There's only so much we can do as a school administration to keep the building COVID-free. Thankfully, to date we have had only four students test positive, and it doesn't seem as if those students contracted the disease while in school but rather in social situations or through close contact with family members. This should be both encouraging and a challenge. As we've reexamined protocols and practices as a school administration, I'd invite you to do the same as a family. Small decisions can have a big impact on the community as a whole.

I also want to take this opportunity to tell you about a decision we've made regarding returning to school after Christmas Break. Because Christmas falls on a Friday this year, our break is a comparatively short one. Because of that, we had begun talking a couple weeks ago as we were watching COVID-19 numbers increase in the country and region about the possibility of conducting the first week of classes after Christmas break virtually. This would allow everyone to come back from traveling and hunker down at home for a week to reduce any potential post-holiday spread in the school community. After discussing this as an administrative team in light of the recent and unexpected move to virtual classes before Thanksgiving, we still believe **it's in the best interest of the school community for classes to be virtual during the week of January 4 -8.** So, please plan on that. Your students will receive more information regarding the schedule of virtual classes that week. This means that the first day of in-person classes after Christmas will be Monday, January 11. Basketball will not be impacted by this decision. Because games were already scheduled for the first week in January, we are going to allow all of the basketball teams to continue practicing and playing during the virtual week.

I don't want to conclude this update without celebrating the successes we've had as a school community this semester. It occurred to me that while we were taking a pause from in-person education, many other schools in the county are just now inviting students to return to the classroom full-time. I'm extremely proud of our teachers, staff, students, and parents for having great attitudes, a cooperative spirit, and for keeping an upbeat atmosphere in the building throughout the first semester. Thank you to Athletic Director Eric Nash and all of our coaches for the great job they did keeping our students in the gym, on the field and in the pool during the fall sports season. The Admissions and Advancement Offices have also been going a great job adjusting and going with the flow. The Admission Office under Barbara McGrath's direction

is seeing applications come in for 2021-22 at a record pace, especially for the 6th grade. Remarkably, fundraising is ahead of last year's pace as Rachel Neubauer and Kevin Meyer have done an incredible job of staying meaningfully engaged with our parents and donors. Thank you, too, to our parents for your continued engagement and generosity of time, talent, and treasure!

It is with sadness that I tell you that Admissions Assistant **Jennifer DeForest** recently left St Joseph's to pursue another employment opportunity. Jennifer joined the Admissions Staff in December 2018 and has been invaluable in her role of assisting and onboarding new students and parents. Her last day was November 13 and she will be missed.

I am pleased to announce that **Jenny Starks** has rejoined our staff full-time, returning to her former role as Admissions Assistant. Jenny first joined us in September 2014 and did an excellent job in this role for several years before leaving in December 2018 to pursue other interests. Jenny never really left St. Joseph's as she continued to serve our students as a valuable math tutor. Jenny's son, Bennett, is a senior here and her youngest daughter, Ella, is a freshman.

Finally, please join the school community in praying for an end to the pandemic and for all families adversely impacted by the disease.

With Love and Prayers,
Keith F. Kiser
Headmaster

Things You Need To Know

Thanksgiving Break, November 25-27

Thanksgiving Break is Wednesday, November 25-Friday, November 27. The school and school office will be closed.

Ugly Christmas Sweater Dress Down Day, December 4

There will be an Ugly Christmas Sweater Dress Down Day fundraiser to raise money to buy winter weather wear, as well as to help the Knights of Columbus with their Christmas food basket program. The date for this dress down day has been moved from November 20 to December 4. Dress down day passes are \$5 and can only be purchased [HERE](#). Questions? Contact [Karen Miros](#).

Schedule Changes, December 8, 9, 10

Please note the following schedule changes:

- **Tuesday, December 8** will be a WEDNESDAY schedule with periods 1, 2, 3 and a 12:05 PM dismissal and an optional Mass at 12:20 PM for the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. This Mass is for students and faculty/staff ONLY.
- **Wednesday, December 9** will be a THURSDAY schedule, with periods 4/5, 6, 7, 8 and Study Help with a 3:00 PM dismissal.
- **Thursday, December 10** will be a MONDAY/TUESDAY/FRIDAY schedule with all 7 classes.

Quarter 2 Ends December 11

Grading for the second quarter ends on Friday, December 11. Parent and student access to gradebook and report cards in *FACTS Family Portal* will close Friday afternoon to allow faculty to enter and finalize grades. *FACTS Family Portal* will reopen after Report Cards are issued December 22.

Middle School Schedule, December 14-17

Eighth graders will be taking semester exams and should see the exam schedule for details. Sixth and seventh graders will not have exams but will follow the exam schedule with longer classes each day from December 14-17. On Monday, December 14, school will start later at 10:20 AM with 1st period only meeting, and with dismissal at 12:15 PM. Students should not be dropped off before 10:05 AM unless they will be taking advantage of Early Stay, which will be available starting at 7:30 AM with no fee. On December 15-17, we will start at the normal time and have two long classes each day with dismissal at 12:15 PM.

Eighth Grade & HS Exams, December 14-18

Please see the exam schedule and guidelines detailed in this edition of *News and Notes*. Please avoid taking students out for appointments on exam days and remember that **exams may not be taken early**.

Early Stay (December 14) & Late Stay (December 14, 15, 16) During Exams

There will be Early Stay on Monday, December 14 prior to the 10:20 AM first exam. Students may be dropped off beginning at 7:30 AM and all students dropped off prior to 10:00 AM will attend Early Stay. There will be Late Stay (12:30-6:00 PM) on Monday, December 14 through Wednesday, December 16. There will be NO Late Stay on Thursday, December 17.

Spread the Warmth of Christ's Love this Christmas; Deadline to Collect December 16

SJCS is collecting winter wear for children living in the Greenville community throughout December. This Christmas project gives students the opportunity to partner alongside SJCS Parent, Pastor Alfred Johnson, and "Church Without Walls" to help needy kids living near our school. All items must be NEW. Please consider donating new coats, gloves, hats and blankets in children's sizes this holiday season. The Household with the greatest participation will win a Chick-fil-A breakfast. The deadline for donations is Wednesday, December 16.

Christmas Break, December 21–January 1

There will be no classes. The school and school offices will be closed. Classes will resume virtually on Monday, January 4 and resume in-person on Monday, January 11.

Second Quarter/First Semester Grades Emailed to Parents December 22

Quarter 2/Semester I Report Cards will be emailed on Tuesday, December 22 after 4:00 PM. Please remember to check your *spam* or *junk* email folder. If you do not receive the link for the Report Card, please email the Registrar, [Carol Curry](#). Any questions regarding your student's grade should be addressed with the teacher.

HS Semester II Add/Drop Period January 4-15

The period to add or drop a course for the second semester is from January 4-15. Course Add/Drop Request Forms will be available in the College Counseling Office beginning December 7. Full-year courses cannot be modified during the second semester. Only semester courses may be changed, and only if space is available.

Priority Admissions Testing, January 9 or February 6:

If you have a child who is interested in applying for admission or you know someone who may be interested, our online application, found [HERE](#), is now open. Parents of potential applicants should not delay as many classes are close to capacity for the 2020-21 school year. Below is some important information:

1. **Best Dates to Test:** Priority testing dates are Saturday, January 9, 2021 OR Saturday, February 6, 2021 and applicants sign up for one date when they complete the application. There is no preference given to either of these dates. Applicants who test in January are not given priority over those who test in February. These are the best dates to test because these applicants will get the first look and be the first to receive their admissions notifications (around March 15).
2. **Tuition Assistance:** SJCS offers Flexible Tuition and our need-based FACTS Grant & Aid Application Form will be posted on our website in early January 2021 with a February 15, 2021 priority deadline. SJCS also offers merit-based scholarships as well as scholarships with both merit and need-based components. For this school year alone, SJCS awarded 29% of our student body with \$1.2 million in tuition assistance. For a complete list of all tuition assistance opportunities, as well as deadlines and qualifications, click [HERE](#).

Eighth Grade Day, January 13

All SJCS eighth grade parents received a letter from Headmaster Keith Kiser (found [HERE](#)) in late September with details on transitioning your eighth grade son or daughter into high school. SJCS eighth graders need not apply to enter our high school, but we do require them to take our high school scholarship/placement test on Eighth Grade Day, Wednesday, January 13. There are two important reasons for completing this test: 1) This test allows SJCS eighth graders to compete for one of two academic scholarships awarded each year to two incoming freshmen; and, 2) this test provides us valuable comparison and placement data on our incoming ninth grade students. Please note that this is not an admissions test, as your child is already a St. Joseph's student. Your child will not attend classes on this day, and more information will follow as this date approaches. This will be a Free Dress Day for Eighth Graders (following the guidelines in the Parent/Student Handbook) and they may pick up a complimentary Chick-fil-A sandwich once testing is completed. **NOTE:** If your eighth grade son/daughter is absent on January 13, he/she will be required to take the test on Saturday, February 6, 2021.

Martin Luther King Jr. Day, January 18

In observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day, the school and school offices will be closed on Monday, January 18.

Admissions Open House, January 31

Do you have a friend, co-worker, or relative who would like to learn more about SJCS? We will open our campus to student-led tours on Sunday, January 31 for our annual Admissions Open House. Due to COVID-19 guidelines, prospective parents must register in advance. Also, all visitors will be required to wear a mask and must socially distance their family from others. Temperatures will be taken upon entrance. This annual event will allow both parents and students the opportunity to meet teachers in their rooms as well as meet several of our coaches in the gym. Our website will have more information as this date approaches.

Refer a Family and Earn \$500!

Several SJCS parents took advantage of this program last spring and already received a \$500 tuition credit on their account for this school year. We hope that many more parents will take advantage of this for the start of the 2021-22 school year. Click [HERE](#) to read more.

Eighth Grade Play *Romeo & Winifred*, February 4

In celebration of Catholic Schools Week, the SJCS Fine Arts Department will be presenting the annual 8th grade play on Thursday, February 4. Join us for this production, starring more than 30 students from the 8th grade class. More details will be available after the new year!

Junior College Planning Night, February 9

Brand R. Stille, Vice President for Enrollment at Wofford College will be on campus on Tuesday, February 9 at 7:00 PM in the JP II Center to present on some of the following topics: College Admission Calendar, Key Terms (Early Decision, Early Action, Rolling Admission, Wait List, Common Application, etc.), Student/Parent/School Responsibilities, How to Research College Information, College Entrance Exams, and Financial Aid. At least one parent must attend with their student. We will let you know who your college counselor will be and will begin scheduling individual student/family meetings following this meeting.

Freshman & Sophomore College Counseling Night, February 11

We will be having our annual meeting on February 11 at 7:00 PM in the JP II Center. This meeting is for freshmen and sophomores and their parents to discuss general academic and college planning items. Holley Springfield from Auburn University Admissions will be our guest speaker (via Zoom). All Freshman and Sophomore families must attend this meeting at least once (either during the students' freshman or sophomore year). Students are asked to sit with their parents.

Jubilate Knight, February 13

With the new year, we welcome a new season for our Annual Jubilate Knight for the Arts. The St. Joseph's talent night fundraiser for our Fine Arts Department will be held Saturday, February 13, 2021. Start planning your performance act now because auditions will be held in January when classes resume. Gather your friends and family as this event is open to students, alumni, families, faculty and staff; the more the merrier!

Has Anything Changed?

Have a change of address, phone number, or email? Email updates to [Jenny Starks](#).

Lands' End Cardigans Now Offered for Girls

Cardigans are now an approved part of the casual uniform for girls. Two styles are available. Click [HERE](#) for details.

From the Middle School Director

“For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away.” Matthew 25:29

One of the difference makers in a St. Joseph’s Catholic School education is that our students learn in a community that cultivates their talents and gifts. We encourage our young people to dive deep into themselves to discover the things that bring them joy, which, in turn, brings others joy. That’s how our graduates change the world. Margaret Ann Moon, one of the school’s Founders, said this often. And we have seen it unfold time and time again. Our students learn to listen to the stirrings of their heart, and, with trials and testings, they begin to craft their response to the world and its reality. With their God-gifted abilities and talents, they bring energy, healing, and hope to those around them.

It can be a challenge to share our gifts and talents with another. There is a vulnerability that can be hard to overcome. Our young people are particularly prone to this vulnerability. *What will they think of me? I might look silly. This isn’t good enough yet. I don’t want them to know I’m good at this. All this will just take too much time.* And the list of defenses goes on. But the scripture verse above from the **Parable of the Talents** is a bold reminder that all we have is a gift, and that gift is meant to be shared. As quickly as a gift has been given, it can be taken away. Our accountability as followers of Christ includes not just avoiding wrongdoing or bad decisions, but acknowledging those things that we have failed to do. There is tremendous opportunity right now to heal a broken world and build up the most burdened among us by sharing our gifts freely and without reservation.

This Advent and Christmas season would be an incredible time to encourage our children to spread joy, healing, and hope with the gifts and talents they have. And they have so many! A quick stroll through our hallways or in our classrooms provides mounds of evidence. As parents, we can help them consider the gift of a handwritten note, a colorful drawing, homemade granola, Christmas carols on a porch. All would serve to elevate our spirits and those of someone near to us. Their creativity is second only to the many skills and abilities they have to draw on. Personally, I can’t think of anything more magnificent than this true gift of self.

From the High School Director

Every morning as I’m walking out the door I check to make sure I have my keys, my wallet, and my phone. I actually say to myself, “keys, phone, wallet” while I touch each pocket to make sure each item is there and I always go in the same order. The thing is, I physically check for them in the opposite order. That is, as I say keys I physically check for my wallet. Then I say “phone” and check for my phone. Finally, I say “wallet” and check for my keys, and I go through this strange little routine just about every morning.

That’s the power of habit. Even when I know it doesn’t jive with what I’m actually doing my habit is to go in a particular order. It’s precisely because our habits are so ingrained that we need to make sure we develop good ones. Habits are, after all, those things that we do unconsciously.

With our students in mind, here are some good habits for students:

- Establish patterns as often as possible. Go to bed about the same time, get up about the same time, etc. This makes for much better and more consistent time management.
- Get off the phone about 30 minutes before you go to bed--it actually helps you sleep AND those last few minutes they want to be on their phones doesn’t accidentally expand to become another lost hour.
- Utilize the school day to get things done (study hall, the school-wide study help period, the last few minutes of class when given the opportunity). They’ll be amazed what they can accomplish.
- Read at least one book a month that isn’t assigned. If they can’t read an entire book, pick a good, in-depth essay from a journal like First Things or The Atlantic. I tell my own kids all the time that knowing things is more fun than not knowing things, and reading is the best way to learn new things.
- Most importantly, get them to help encourage their friends to commit to these things as well. Nothing makes it easier to tackle new challenges than doing so with your friends.

Enjoy the upcoming holiday season, and remember that we can confidently proclaim: Joy to the World. The Lord has come!

*** PLEASE KEEP FOR REFERENCE ***

Eighth Grade & HS First Semester Exam Schedule

Location: Various Classrooms of Instruction

Monday, December 14	8:05 – 10:00 AM	10:20 AM – 12:15 PM
Tuesday, December 15	No Exam	First Period
Wednesday, December 16	Second Period	Third Period
Thursday, December 17	HS Fourth Period/MS Fifth	Sixth Period
Friday, December 18	Period	Eighth Period
	Seventh Period	(Make-ups if needed)
	(Make-ups if needed)	

Exam Guidelines

1. Students are to report directly to their designated exam rooms. All students should be seated by 8:00 AM. Any students arriving after 8:00 AM will be considered tardy. No students are to be admitted to the exam once the exam has been distributed. Likewise for the second exam, students should be seated and attendance taken by 10:15 AM, and no student may be admitted once the exam has been distributed.
2. Students may bring review materials for other exams to study quietly if they finish their exam early. Silence should be maintained from the moment the exams are distributed until all exams are collected at the end of the testing period. Students may ask quiet, non test-related questions. Students who have questions should raise their hands and the proctor will attend to them quietly.
3. Once the exams begin, students should not be permitted to leave the examination rooms. Restroom trips should be limited to emergencies and then only after the student has turned in his/her exam.
4. All students must remain in their designated exam rooms until the exam period is over. Quiet is to be maintained at all times. Students should remain in their seats until the last exam is turned in.
5. Students on campus who are not taking exams must remain in the library. The library will be a designated study hall; the proctor may allow students to leave the library one at a time to use the restroom. All other normal study hall procedures are to remain in force.
6. Students with only one exam on a given day need be present for that exam only. In other words, they can leave after their first exam if they don't have a 10:20 AM exam, and they can arrive at 10:15 AM if they don't have an 8:05 AM exam. Students leaving after their first exam must sign out and leave through the front office. Students taking only a second exam must enter and sign in through the front office.

From the Business Office

Re-Enrollment for the 2021-2022 School Year

All 2021-2022 school year Enrollments/Re-enrollments will be completed using the FACTS Family Portal. In February, when the next school year's tuition has been established, each family will receive an e-mail containing instructions and a link to be used to complete their student's enrollment. This enrollment process will include selecting a payment plan and updating any necessary student information. Your child will not be eligible to enroll for classes for the 2021-2022 school year until the online enrollment process is complete.

Flexible Tuition

The Flexible Tuition application process for the 2021-2022 school year will begin in early January with a priority deadline of February 15, 2021. Flexible Tuition is awarded annually and must be applied for each year.

Tuition Recruitment Credit

In an effort to recruit more families like yours to St. Joseph's Catholic School, and reward our best customers to help us with this endeavor, the school offers a \$500 Tuition Credit Program. Based on parent feedback, we have learned that word-of-mouth is our most effective advertising medium for attracting families. The Tuition Credit Program is designed to reward current St. Joseph's families for actively recruiting new families to St. Joseph's. When a new family applies for admission, they have the opportunity to name the St. Joseph's family on their application who recommended SJCS. After the new student(s) attends school for one quarter, the recruiting family receives a \$500 credit on their next tuition bill, usually in November. Click [HERE](#) to read more about the program qualifications. Questions? Contact [Barbara McGrath](#).

Food Service Policy

St. Joseph's Catholic School contracts with Flik to provide food service for our school. Flik offers a declining balance program that can be used to purchase lunch, breakfast, afternoon snacks, and retail items (bottled drinks, cookies, snacks, etc.). Since Flik is not set up to extend credit to students, parents are encouraged to deposit money into their student's account so they can take advantage of Flik's many offerings.

If parents use the declining balance program, they should be aware of the following regarding low account balances:

- A **minimum** balance of \$25 is recommended to be kept in the account. This will allow students to purchase five (5) lunches before exhausting their funds.
- When a student's account balance falls below \$25, a weekly **email reminder** will be sent to the parent, along with account balance information and a copy of the procedure for adding more funds to the account. This will enable the parent to add additional funds before the balance becomes negative.
 - If a student's balance gets to -\$50.00, the following will occur:
 - A la carte retail purchases will **not be allowed**.
 - If the student does not have money for lunch, the student will be allowed to receive a hot lunch and fountain drink. The student will **not be allowed to purchase any other items**.
 - The student will not be allowed to resume normal charging privileges until their account balance is restored to a positive credit balance.
 - Email reminders will be sent to parents weekly.
- The Business Office will be notified when a student's balance reaches -\$50 and the Business Office will meet with the student.
- Parents can check their account balances online by going to the Students & Parents page of the St. Joseph's website and clicking the [MySchoolBucks](#) icon.
- Parents can add funds to their account by taking a check to Flik in the cafeteria, by dropping a check off with the receptionist in the Front Office and making it clear the check is for Flik, or by paying online (which will incur a convenience fee). **In order to help maintain social distancing between students, no cash or checks will be accepted during lunch service.**

Any questions regarding the cafeteria service should be directed to [Chef Greg Ray](#).

From the Parents Guild

Catholic Schools Week Help Needed

Each year, parents treat the faculty and staff to a luncheon during Catholic Schools Week (January 31 – February 6). This year's luncheon will be held on Friday, February 5. To further show our appreciation, each member of the faculty and staff is given a gift card. Be on the lookout for ways to participate in the luncheon and start collecting those gift cards. Do you have any unused gift cards from the holidays? Gift cards can be sent to the school, marked to the attention of Parents Guild. Anyone interested in helping with Catholic Schools Week should contact [Rita Taylor](#).

From the Development Office

Coming This Spring: Annual Auction Gala!

We will be gearing up this January to plan for our Annual Auction Gala. Please stay tuned for communications from our Development Office on more details about the status (virtual/in-person) of the event. In the meantime, please consider getting involved with one of the many Gala volunteer opportunities by contacting [Rachel Neubauer](#) in the Development Office.

We are also collecting donations:

- Wine/Champagne: If you have any unopened bottles of wine leftover from your Christmas or New Year Celebrations, please consider donating them to the Gala. We will be collecting wine of all varieties and qualities for a fun element at this year's event. Please leave bottles in the front office for [Rachel Neubauer](#).
- Vacation Rental Properties: If you have any Vacation Home Rental Properties and would like to donate a stay to the Gala please contact [Megha Lal](#) or [Rachel Neubauer](#).
- Empty Baskets: If you have any sturdy baskets from past Gala winnings, please feel free to donate them back to the school by dropping them off at the Front Office.
- As the end of the year approaches, please consider donating to the Gala's Silent Auction or Live Auction, or becoming a Gala Sponsor. The Gala Sponsorship goal for this year is \$150,000. For details on becoming a Gala Sponsor, please contact [Kevin Meyer](#) in the Development Office.

Annual Fund

- 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. As of late November, an impressive 91% of faculty and staff and almost 25% of our school families have contributed. Congratulations to the **7th grade** which is leading with a **grade level participation of 36%!** We will continue to track these participation numbers through the Gala in the Spring.
- 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 \$500,000. Please contact [Kevin Meyer](#) with any questions, download your [Annual Fund Donation Form](#) or give [online](#) today!

From the Fine Arts Department

Theatre Crew Opportunity

Students interested in getting involved with our after-school Crew, which helps to support the theatre productions, should contact [Ms. Teresa McGrath](#). The crew schedule varies, but is usually scheduled after school three days a week and on Saturdays. Also, a Shop Safety Certification class will be offered this fall for HS students. Contact [Ms. Teresa McGrath](#) if you're interested in this training session.

Jubilate Arts Guild

Thank you to all who supported the Fine Arts Department through the Christmas Wreath Sale that ran the month of October! Through your generous efforts, the Guild raised over \$2,000.00 in support. Thanks to all for your amazing efforts!

From the Athletic Department

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 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 PlanetHS found [HERE](#). Information on how to create the parent and student login at Planet HS is available on the SJCS website under Athletics. Be sure to type St. Joseph's Catholic School in the search line when looking for our school.

Knights Athletic Booster Club

- Thank you to all who have joined the Booster Club so far this year. We have a record number of memberships and our student athletes and coaches are grateful for your support. We do have a goal of 100% participation every year and it's never too late to join. If you haven't joined, you can join at any time by clicking [HERE](#).
- The Goal of the Booster Club is to support our student-athletes. Each year, we raise money and work directly with our Athletic Director, Eric Nash, to supplement the athletic budget to better serve our student-athletes. Over the past few years, we have helped purchase the HUDL Focus camera system for the gym, a portable water dispenser, scoreboards, weights and flooring for the weight room, a new score table for the gym, team seating and bleacher repairs in the gym, tennis court benches, stadium concessions stand enhancements, iPads, Pep Band t-shirts, the annual coaches' appreciation dinner, and more.

Fall Sports Team Competition Update

Congratulations to the Varsity Volleyball Team for adding another "W" to their season. They had the highest percentage participation in the Booster Club among the fall teams (77%) and won a team pizza party. Second and third place teams were close behind - Girls Golf with 75% and Varsity Football with 73%. Next team competition will be among winter sports. Thank you for your support and Go Knights!

From the Academic Support Services & College Counseling Office

PSAT Test Results

PSAT/NMSQT and PSAT 8/9 test results are expected to be available to students online on December 8 on their College Board account. Students who don't have an account should click [HERE](#) for information on opening a College Board account, which is necessary for accessing scores. Paper score reports will be distributed at school in January and parents will be emailed when students receive these reports. Questions? Contact [Melissa Broering](#).

ACT Practice Test, January 23

There will be a Princeton Review ACT Practice Test at school on Saturday, January 23, from 9:15 AM-1:15 PM. This test is geared toward juniors or seniors who have not yet taken the ACT, but interested sophomores may also attend. The experience will help students become familiar with the ACT format and learn about which areas they need to focus on to improve their scores when they take the actual ACT for college admissions purposes. Click [HERE](#) to register by January 11. Questions? Contact [Melissa Broering](#).