



St. James Catholic School

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August 2, 2021.

Dear SJCS Families,

I hope everyone has had a safe and healthy summer. We have had a very busy summer at SJCS. We are proud to announce that we have some new staff/faculty additions. The students and parents will be happy to have these new professionals at our school.

Charlotte Higley joins the SJCS community in the SJCS front office as the **Health Coordinator**. Ms. Higley has been a retail manager at Dick's Sporting Goods. She has 4 children enrolled at our school. She is a much welcome help to our office.

This year we are opening our **PK 3** class. **Elena Coignet** will be the teacher for the PK3 students. She has worked in public school and her most recent job was at the Head Start Program of Seguin. We are excited to add this class to our school.

Jenna Dunn will be our **1st grade teacher**. She has been in Texas for a month and she has taught at a Catholic School in Illinois. Please help her feel welcomed to SJCS.

We have hired a **2nd grade teacher, Veronica Heckerman**. She has taught in Archdiocesan schools for 8 years, St. Luke's (2015) and 3 years in public schools. We are glad to have her join our SJCS team.

Our priority is to protect the health and safety of our students and school staff, while providing an excellent, in person academic experience. We all plan to do what is necessary to keep our children and families safe. As you all know, COVID has not gone away and the numbers are on the rise.

We will be following these safety protocols to start the 2021-2022 school year.

*The faculty and staff will be wearing a mask for the beginning of this school year.

*We recommend that everyone who is eligible for a COVID-19 vaccine speak to their health care professional about the vaccination.

*We strongly encourage everyone to wear a mask indoors. (New quarantine protocols are being developed that will be based on close contact with masked individuals or unmasked individuals and vaccination status.)

*We will continue with COVID-19 cleaning and sanitizing protocols.

*We will maintain social distancing (3 feet) whenever possible, and,

*We will be adhering to the "if sick, stay at home" policy for teachers, staff, students and visitors on campus.

We are proceeding with caution and will monitor the situation closely these next two weeks. **A final notification with first day of school protocols will be sent out to you by Friday, August 13th.**

Because of the positive responses and efficiency of our Drop Off and Pick Up Procedures last year, we will be using the **same procedure** for the 2021-2022 school year. Students may be dropped off at 7:30 am. Our students will be going to specials classes and to the cafeteria this year. We are prayerful that we will continue to be as safe and healthy as we were last year.

We have also had some opportunities for campus improvements.

1. Our K-5 restrooms are being refurbished, repaired and deep cleaned. This project began in late June and is funded by the generous support of the Knights of Columbus Council #3412 and the SJCS Alumni Association. We anticipate that the project will be completed by the first day of school.
2. The kitchen in the Cafeteria is being remodeled and repaired. The parish received money from the Archdiocesan Capitol Fund for the necessary upgrades. This project will be finished by September 1st. In the meantime, Chef Jimmie will prepare student meals in the Family Center kitchen. Our students will be eating their lunches in the cafeteria.

Important Dates/Please Mark Your Calendars

August 11, 2021 (Wednesday) New Parent/Student Orientation - 5:00 Cafeteria

August 11, 2021 (Wednesday) Meet the Teacher/ School Supply Drop Off – 5:30-6:30 - individual classrooms.

August 16, 2020 (Monday) First Day of School- Drop off at 7:30 am

We look forward to an exciting, safe, and healthy school year where our students can experience academic growth and positive personal development. **Again, we look forward to working with you as “Our Parents as Partners”.**

Sincerely,



Johanna Lopez
Principal

“Always Be Humble and Kind.” 1st Corinthians 16:14