



Saint Joseph School
once a saint, always a saint

August 2018

Dear Saint Joseph Catholic School Parents,

Welcome to the new school year!

I want to thank all of you who stopped by over the summer to get acquainted and offer support, and I look forward to meeting all members of our amazing school community! Please be reassured that while we are experiencing a lot of change, every administrator, faculty, and staff member is here to nurture and support your child, and to that end, we look forward to deepening our partnership with you.

Additionally, I want to thank all of you who participated in the parent satisfaction survey. The data collected gives us a starting point on which to build our strategic initiatives for the upcoming school year, and therefore, we will be implementing the following:

- A commitment to improve communication. This includes an increase in communication from the administration to two, weekly, electronic communications, that will provide an overview of events as well as reminders of upcoming events.
- An increase in communication from teachers, especially with respect to student progress, with the additional commitment to a 24-hour response time.
- A commitment to further differentiating instruction. Our teacher professional development this year focuses on understanding student performance data and using that data to differentiate lessons to better meet individual student learning needs, and track student progress year after year.
- A commitment to better aligning teachers with their competency areas. This can already be seen in the realigning of science and middle school math.
- A commitment to expanding the middle school math program for 2019-2020 to include

Algebra 1 for qualified 7th grade students, and Geometry for qualified 8th grade students in 2020-2021.

- A commitment to expanding after-school offerings that support STREAM education and 21st century skills, including Lego Club and Robotics as well as continuing the opportunity for math competitions.
- A commitment to improving the volunteer program to create more opportunities during lunch and recess. (All volunteers who interact with the students must be Virtus certified.)
- A commitment to an increase in opportunities to share our common life in Christ by scheduling a school Mass each week we are in session.

The St. Joseph School administration, faculty and staff are dedicated to meeting the needs of all our students, by exposing them to best practices in education, along with the rich traditions of the Catholic Church.

Please let me know if you have any questions, or if you need any assistance.

Rejoice and Be Glad!

Denise Rutledge

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Principal