



February 19, 2021

Dear SRCES families,

A few weeks ago, you received a letter from me explaining the delayed process of registration and announcement of tuition rates before Catholic Schools Week. Last week, the awaited announcement was made that four of our SRCES schools will be merging into two new school entities for the 2021-2022 school year. Today I would like to provide an update and how these changes may affect all of our families in the South Regional Catholic Elementary Schools.

Changes to our beloved schools are never easy and often even painful for those directly affected. One of the primary goals of regionalization is for us to unite as a community of faith. Therefore, I ask that all of us pray for the current families of St. Elizabeth of Hungary, St. Gabriel of the Sorrowful Virgin, St. Margaret of Scotland, and St. Philip Schools. Please also join me in putting this process into God's hands in prayer, asking that the Holy Spirit continue to guide us as we move forward and plan for the future of these two newly merged schools. Communication regarding the implementation of the mergers will be sent to those families directly as they develop. In the meantime, there is one essential item to note for all of those families.

Registration will open soon, and there will be room for all current families at both of the new schools.

Registration has opened for the other five schools in our region that are not merging, and their tuition has been approved by the SRCES board. Tuition increases have been made with the least amount possible. In an effort to standardize tuition discounts across the region for both Catholic and non-Catholic rates, a 20% discount was applied to Catholic families with two children and a 30% discount for Catholic families with three or more children. Our non-Catholic families discount is 10% with two children, 15% with three children, and 30% discount for families with four children. As always, we never want finances to deter our families from attending our schools. We highly encourage **all** of our families to apply for tuition assistance, and those applications are now available through FACTS and may be found on both the diocesan and SRCES websites. Families are asked to log in and begin that application process **by March 15, 2021**. Families from the four schools that are merging may list their current schools on the FACTS Grant and Aid application.

Our mission remains to provide affordable, accessible, and sustainable Catholic education for all of our families in the south region. Our diocesan and regional staff are committed to that goal and strive to reach it each day in all that we do. Please contact me with any questions or concerns.

God bless you!

Sincerely,

Sharon Loughran Brown

Regional Administrator, South Regional Catholic Elementary Schools.

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