



THE ACADEMY OF SAINT MATTHIAS THE APOSTLE

BRIDGES

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OCTOBER 21, 2021



STATE OF THE SCHOOL MEETING

All families are urged to attend the annual state of the school meeting this Wednesday, October 27 at 7:00 P.M. The meeting will be held in Friendship Hall. Parents who have childcare needs, may attend the meeting virtually. Our Pastor, Fr. Jack will be discussing the economic health of the school, including the archdiocesan plan to move to a single tuition rate beginning in the 2021 school year. Our principal, Mrs. Schratz will discuss school improvement goals. Finally, our Home and School Association President, Mrs. Kenique Freeman will share important Home and School Association news and plans. Light refreshments will be served at the meeting. Parents who attend will receive 1 service hour.



FINANCIAL AID APPLICATIONS



Current families may apply for financial aid for the 2023 school year now! This application is also used to determine archdiocesan and other aid for children that will attend Catholic high schools next year. All families are urged to apply. The deadline is December 6, 2021. If you need assistance, please contact our Admissions Director, Mrs. O'Hare.

FUN-D RUN SUCCESS

We have exceeded \$19,000 thus far! This is great news because we are applying for a matching grant from Game Time, our playground vendor. 95% of the children raised this money. This is by far the best that we have ever done and signals a new level of participation and enthusiasm for our school community. Another sign of our Best Year Ever! Many thanks to all of you.



COVID TESTING IS COMING TO ST. MATTHIAS



Next week some of our staff are being trained to administer Covid-19 tests on staff, students, and parent volunteers. Please be on the look out for an email that gives more details about the tests, the process and parental permission. The testing is free, non-invasive, and fast.

We expect to test bi-weekly. It will be especially helpful to test after holiday weekends and vacation.

Upcoming EVENTS

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Friday October 27

Chick-fil-A Forms Due

Tuesday, October 26

Student Council at Lunchtime

Wednesday, October 27

Chick-fil-A Luncheon

Jr. Drama Club 3:00 - 4:15 pm

State of the School

Parent Meeting 7:00 pm

Thursday, October 28

Prospective Parents Open House

9:00 - 10:00 am

Out of Uniform — Black and Orange

Drama Club 3:00 - 4:15

Friday, October 29 — School Closed

ADW Professional Development

GRADE 8 NEWS

Families who are considering a Catholic high school for their graduating children must register for the High School Placement Test. Registration closes on November 18. The test is given in school on December 2.



UNIFORM WOES



Our uniform supplier, Flynn and O'Hara has informed us that new uniforms are still on back-order! The school administration shares your frustration. Students who cannot get uniforms will not be held accountable until we are notified that all uniforms have been delivered. However, students will be held accountable to be in compliance with hair, nail, jewelry, shoe and sock regulations. Please consult the Parent/Student Calendar/Handbook to ensure that your child is compliant.

POPPER POLICY

It is a school rule that children do not bring toys from home to school. This includes the new and widely popular Popper Puzzles. Beginning on Monday, these and other toys found in school will be taken away from the children and returned at the end of the school year or given to parents who come in to pick them up. We do recognize that students with identified focus issues may benefit from a fidget tool. These are supplied by the school when needed. Your cooperation is appreciated.



PARENT CONFERENCES



School is closed for students on November 11. The teachers will be meeting for a brief meeting with parents to review each students' academic and social progress. Prior to scheduling it would be helpful to know if parents prefer to meet in person or to meet with the teacher via Zoom. A brief survey will be emailed to you next week. Please respond in a timely manner.

CLEANING OUT THE SCHOOL

We have many items that are free for interested families: small student chairs, extra tables, some furniture items, children's books. Please look for these items by the drop-off line next week!



BRIDGES



One of the duties of St. Matthias school parents and guardians is to stay informed. Reading this weekly newsletter (*Bridges*) is a very important part of meeting this responsibility. The first step in accomplishing this task is to check your email and open every email that comes from the school. It is disturbing to see children upset because they are not getting Chick-fil-A or are missing out on a free dress day because their parents did not know what was going on at school. Please help your children by staying informed! If you need a hard copy of *Bridges*, please email your request to Mrs. Blackburn at mblackburn@stmatthias.org.

PHOTO RELEASE

If you do not wish your child's image to appear on any St. Matthias media platform, please send in a written request to your child's teacher asap.