# ST. LAURENCE ST. LAURENCE

# **SPOTLIGHT OF THE WEEK**

8.19.20



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# **WELCOME BACK, SAINTS!**













SUBMIT YOUR FIRST WEEK OF SCHOOL PICTURES <u>HERE</u>.
YOU MIGHT SEE THEM IN YEARBOOK AND SCHOOL PUBLICATIONS.

HAVE A BLESSED SCHOOL YEAR!

# IMPORTANT DATES

	Remote Instruction for All
8/20	Remote Instruction for All
8/21	Remote Instruction for All
8/24	PreK, K, and 1st - Red begin (Blue stays home)
8/25	PreK, K, and 1st - Blue begin (Red stays home) School Board Meeting - 7:00 p.m.
8/26	Jean/Spirit Day - Blue jeans or uniform bottoms with spirit shirt All PreK, K, and 1st Red and Blue - In School 2nd and 3rd Red begin (Blue stays home)
8/27	All PreK, K, and 1st Red and Blue - In School 2nd and 3rd Blue begin (Red stays home) Parent Information Night (PIN) - ECC/Elementary - 6:30-9:00pm - Virtual
8/28	All PreK-3rd Red and Blue - In School No School Mass
8/31	All PreK- 3rd In School 4th- 6th Red Begin (Blue stays home)
9/1	All PreK- 3rd In School 4th- 6th Blue Begin (Red stays home)
9/2	Jean/Spirit Day - Blue jeans or uniform bottoms with spirit shirt All PreK-6th Red and Blue - In School 7th-8th Red Begin (Blue stays home)
9/3	All PreK-6th In School 7th-8th Blue begin (Red stays home) Parent Information Night (PIN) - Middle School - 6:30-9:00pm - Virtual
9/4	ALL STUDENTS IN SCHOOL!
9/7	Labor Day Holiday - No School!



# FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

### Dear Parents,

Welcome to a new school year! We are off and running remotely!! It's a very different start to the school year, but seeing the smiling faces of our students (even on ZOOM) is amazing and well worth all the weeks of planning and preparation. I hope they are enjoying the interaction with their teachers so far. Thank you for supporting your child at home, as I know we are asking a lot of you regarding technology. So far, things seem to be going well and we are very grateful to have the time this week to work out some details online before we usher our students physically into the building. Keep in mind that all students need to become familiar with the technology we are currently using, as it will be necessary for remote or face to face instruction.

Here is some important information for all Saints families once your child is on campus, whether that is next week or the next quarter. Every morning, either before coming to school OR while waiting in line at carpool, you **must** fill out this simple screening questionnaire. This can be done by bookmarking this link **HERE** or using this QR code **HERE** We will also have those available as a sticker that you can add to your carpool number the first day of school for convenience. Either way, we require that you fill this out every day before your child can enter the building. If either of the 2 answers are YES to having symptoms or being in close contact with a confirmed case of COVID-19, then you should stay home and contact us via our new COVID-19@stlaurence.org address. Please understand that we are being very firm this year with any symptoms on the list and you must follow our school protocol to ensure that our entire saints community stays healthy and safe. Each day as you pull up in the carpool line, we ask that you roll down your windows so we can ask if you have filled out the screening questionnaire. Through the window, we will take the temperature of your child(ren), so please have them ready with a mask on ready to exit the car once this is done. We will help little ones with any straps on car seats. Elementary and middle school students can exit themselves once their temperature is taken. Please note that the threshold is 100.0 and our thermometer is the standard. There are many more details below regarding carpool so please read through these carefully.

I also ask that you please follow our same commitment to maintaining social distancing, practicing proper handwashing and wearing a mask in public. This is the only way we can contribute to keeping everyone safe

and keep our school open this year. Here are the guidelines we follow as contained in our Return to Learning Document <u>HERE</u>. Families will be notified if there are any lab-confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the school and if we all do our best, then we can avoid any spread.

We look forward to partnering with all of you this year in educating your precious children and appreciate your flexibility as we all learn new ways of ensuring success in a very different school year. Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have questions. We are here for you and keeping your family in our prayers. God bless.

Suzanne Barto M.Ed.

Principal



**LET'S NOT FORGET** 

**OUR MOST IMPORTANT** 

**SCHOOL SUPPLIES** 

THIS YEAR!



# **CARPOOL PROCEDURES**

### For our incoming ECC students, please read below for arrival and dismissal next week:

- 1. All ECC students and their siblings are dropped off on the ECC campus. Doors open at 7:40 a.m.
- 2. All ECC Carpool families enter the parking lot via the Sweetwater entrance next to the Church. Follow the parking lot around the parish hall and exit the middle drive onto Austin Parkway.
- 3. **IMPORTANT** All PreK carpool students should be dropped off under the bell tower this year. Please enter Sweetwater in the line closest to the buildings and pull under the shade covering. Please pull all the way up to the stop sign. **PreK students will be picked up at dismissal along the covered walkway to the parish hall.**
- 4. Please roll down windows so we can ask about the screening questionnaire and take your child's temperature. Your child will exit there and proceed by themselves through the courtyard to their classroom. Staff will be helping them get to the correct location. Please do not park and walk up as this creates a safety hazard during carpool.
- 5. After your child exits the car, please pull back into the carpool line and exit onto Austin Parkway.
- 6. PreK families will receive a new coral colored carpool tag that identifies you as having already dropped off your child as you continue through the carpool line. This will save confusion as you will still be in the carpool line for kindergarten as you exit off Austin Parkway.
- 7. Kindergarten families should enter the parking lot off of Sweetwater and try to stay in the lane closest to the parking lot. Follow the line and turn right at the corner of the parish hall. Your child(ren) will be dropped off at the Parish Hall covered walkway.
- 8. Kindergarten students will have their temperature taken before exiting the car as well, so please have your windows rolled down so that we can ask about the screening questionnaire and take temps.
- 9. Once that is done, your child will walk by themselves under the walkway into the parish hall where staff members will meet them and assist them to their correct classroom location.
- 10. All siblings of ECC students will have their temperatures taken at drop off and will walk to the main campus. They will receive a sticker that indicates they have already been cleared to enter the main campus building

- when they arrive at those doors.
- 11. If you are running late as doors close at 8:00 a.m. (once the carpool is going smoothly), then you must park and walk your child to the ECC front office to be signed in. Parents may not walk directly to any classrooms.
- 12. All ECC Students will immediately wash or sanitize their hands as they enter the classroom.

### Students on the Main Campus only:

- 1. All cars with students on the main campus will enter the drive on the far end of the school building off Austin Parkway, closest to Lexington Blvd. Cars will follow the path next to the fence and proceed all the way to Sweetwater by the Church before turning up the middle of the parking lot back to the school. Please do not cut through the parking lot early or come in via Sweetwater as this causes back up on Austin Parkway. We also ask that you please turn right when exiting after carpool onto Austin Parkway so that our line is not held up at the front entrance. This year, we anticipate carpool taking a little longer so we need your help.
- 2. As you drive up to the main school building, we ask that you pull all the way up to the Gym doors this year. We have several stations for staff and volunteers to take temperatures and allow students to enter the building.
- 3. Please roll down your window so that we can ask about completing the screening and then allow your child to have his/her temperature taken before exiting the car.
- 4. Students will not be allowed out of the cars early or congregate in large groups this year for safety reasons.
- 5. There are multiple entrances marked by grade level and red/blue signs to indicate which door your child should enter that day. This will change depending on whether your child is going directly to his/her classroom or to a satellite location. Students will become familiar with one or two entrances and the routine once they have done this a few times.
- 6. As your child enters the building he/she will use hand sanitizer and then proceed to the classroom.

### **Afternoon Carpool**

- 1. All students will be dismissed from classrooms this year via a link with carpool numbers on the Interactive Board. PLEASE stay in line as students will be dismissed down to exit in this order.
- 2. All ECC students will exit through the Parish Hall Walkway doors so no students are dismissed through the bell tower.
- 3. Please have your carpool number prominently displayed every day so that the volunteer taking numbers can have your child in the proper place.
- 4. For ECC students with middle school siblings, we are asking this year that you go through both lines beginning with ECC and then entering Carpool B. We apologize for the inconvenience but it is safer not to bring our little ones to the main campus.
- 5. Walkers need to be identified via a Walker Release Form <u>HERE</u> and MUST live within a mile radius of the school. We do not have a lot of staff able to take large groups of walkers OR wait for parents to pull up at the Ave Maria Center.

**PLEASE** have a consistent carpool routine so that our staff and your child are not confused. We cannot accept requests for a different carpool or allow your child to be a walker if they do not fit the guidelines. This year especially, we do not have the staff available to chase people down and remind them of what days they go to BASC or carpool, etc. We ask that you notify us of any necessary changes to your child's pick up arrangements by noon as teachers do not always get a chance to check email in time to notify all the necessary staff. Thank you for working with us to get over 600 students home safely in less than 45 minutes!

### MORNING CARPOOL PROCEDURES VIDEOS



**PREK** 



**KINDERGARTEN** 



**ELEMENTARY** 



**MIDDLE SCHOOL** 



# **COUNSELORS' CORNER**

### WELCOME BACK TO THE 2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR

We are excited to be starting the new school year. The counselors will be available to all students attending face-to-face and those who will be learning remotely. For those of you who are new, Mrs. Nickel will be working with Pre-K-4th grade students, and her email address is <a href="mailto:knickel@stlaurence.org">knickel@stlaurence.org</a>. Mrs. Schurman will be working with 5th-8th grade, and her email address is lschurman@stlaurence.org.

Mrs. Schurman will be sending out a code next week so that students can join her google classroom. Students in grades 5-8 will also have email addresses that can be used for communication.

As we start the new year, here are a few suggestions to help ensure student success:

- Help your child start getting organized by using his/her agenda and keeping a schedule for either remote and face-to-face instruction.
- Make sure your child starts with a healthy breakfast.
- Children need routines for getting to bed on time and getting up in the morning. Here is an article focusing on appropriate amounts of sleep for children. Read **HERE**
- Before your child comes back to face-to-face instruction, have them practice wearing his/her mask for longer periods of time, and reinforce the practice of good hand washing.

We will work as a trinity to help guide your children through this school year!



# **WELCOME TO THE SAINTS FAMILY!**

### **GET TO KNOW OUR NEW STAFF MEMBERS**

Please join us in welcoming Alison Wilson to the Saints Family.

She will be teaching 8th-grade Social Studies and Religion.

My name is Alison Wilson, and I am very excited to be joining the SLCS family this year. I will be teaching 8th-grade Social Studies and Religion. I hailed from the beautiful state of Wyoming and received my degree from the University of Wyoming. This is my 16th year serving Catholic schools in our archdiocese, where I have taught at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton and Queen of Peace Schools before St. Laurence. My favorite thing about teaching in Catholic schools is praying with and for my students. I look forward to being able to do that soon!

My husband and I have been married for nineteen years and have two children, Erianna (15) and Eli (12 1/2). Of course, our family wouldn't be complete without our four



dogs, Rory, Teddy, Genji, and Sombra! The Wilson family loves to play and be silly. We have spent our quarantine playing lots of games and running marathons of Star Wars, Marvel and Harry Potter movies. In my spare time, I love all things "nerd"! I love reading, especially fantasy & science fiction, Doctor Who, tabletop gaming, Shakespeare, musical theater, and my "happy planner." I also love to crochet and play the piano when I have the time.

STAY TUNED TO MEET MORE NEW SAINTS IN THIS SECTION!



# A NOTE FROM YOUR PTO

### **JOIN VIPS. SIGN UP CLOSES ON SEPTEMBER 15**

The SLCS PTO would like to invite you to volunteer using their automated volunteer sign-up process. Volunteers completely run all the activities/events available for sign-up, and that's why we strongly encourage 100% family participation. Please review and select any programs that you would be willing to help make a success <a href="HERE">HERE</a>. Access Code: SLCS

### HELP WITH ECC LUNCH DUTY

Please consider sharing your time with our Pre-K and Kindergarteners during lunch. Volunteers will help with disposing of trash, collecting items but will not enter the classrooms this year. Please sign up **HERE**.

### CARPOOL VOLUNTEERS NEEDED. HELP AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

Due to the COVID Pandemic, the school's greatest need will be with carpools. Carpool Volunteers will be needed to sort students, and possibly take temperatures. This help will ensure the students are safe and in their proper locations. As a result of the social distancing, all staff will be in the classrooms waiting to either receive or release students. This year will not be as easy as in previous years; however, the St. Laurence Community shines with its ability to come together and make things great for our students! If you would like to help, please contact Mary Esther Phillippi HERE or 832-647-0642.

### PTO'S BIRTHDAY BALLOON CLUB

Celebrate your child's birthday this year in a special way at St. Laurence Catholic School by joining the Birthday Club for only \$10! Payment will be made through FACTS only! Face to Face students will receive a birthday mylar balloon, their name displayed on the electronic marquee, a Facebook shout out, and enjoy free dress on their special day. Virtual Students will receive their names displayed on the electronic marquee, a Facebook shout out, an electronic greeting card, and free dress day! **SIGN UP HERE**.



# **BOOSTER CLUB**

Welcome Back, Saints Family! Your SLCS Booster Club Board will be having online Membership/Gym Sign and Merchandise sales. We will have drive-through pick up for pre orders next Thursday and Friday, August 20th and 21st, from 4:00-6:00 p.m. We will accept checks and credit cards, but checks are preferable to speed up pick up!!

Click the links below to place your order and join Booster Club

- Merchandise Google Form: https://forms.gle/mndCPU4hjd8ZntnN8
- Membership/Gym Signs Google Form: https://forms.gle/oBn2g7FXXHMABL737







# **NEW ITEMS THIS YEAR!**

These forms will also be available on the school website under Booster. Thank you for your continued support of the Booster Club and Saints Athletics!





# REGISTER FOR SACRAMENT PREPARATION SEPTEMBER 1 DEADLINE

The final deadline to register your child for Sacrament Preparation is September 1. If you want your young child to make his/her <u>First Communion</u> or your <u>teen to be confirmed</u> this year, please <u>register now</u> and contact Ruba Kaiser with questions.

## **VISIT OUR PARISH WEBSITE HERE**

### MISSION STATEMENT

As a pastoral instrument of the Church,
St. Laurence Catholic School educates and develops the whole
Christian person in body, mind, and spirit through the trinity of
parent, child, and educator.



www.stlaurenceschool.org | | Facebook | Twitter | | Instagram | LinkedIn