



Notes from Mrs. Nash

Embracing curious minds. Nurturing compassionate hearts.

St. John Fisher School

August 23, 2021

Dear SJF Families,

The time has finally arrived! The first day of school is this Wednesday, August 25th! The teachers have been working tirelessly the past few weeks to prepare their rooms, minds and hearts for the new school year. We have new curriculum, new materials, new flexible seating, new faculty members and air conditioning in every classroom. Now, all we need is our Falcons! We cannot wait to welcome our Falcons back with open arms this Wednesday; it is going to be a great year! Below are a few reminders for this upcoming week. Here – we – go!

Now more than ever, it is a great time to be a Falcon! The future of our school and community is bright! Thank you for your continued support of Catholic education, but specifically St. John Fisher School.

In unity and hope,

-Mrs. Maura Nash

First Day of School Reminders

- The first day of school is **Wednesday, August 25th** which is an **11:30 dismissal**. Similar to last year, *parents are not allowed in the building on the first day.*
- Our **staggered arrival times** will continue this year in order to ease the morning traffic flow. Students with the last name beginning with letters **A-L should arrive at 7:45 a.m.** and students with the last name beginning with letters **M-Z should arrive at 7:50**. *Students will be considered late at 7:55.*
- **Door Assignments:**
 - Preschool Room 107 & 109, Door #6 under the bridge on the west side
 - Preschool Room 108 & 110, Door #7 on the Fairfield, side south door across from the convent
 - Kindergarten, Door #8 east side of the church foyer, off of the rectory driveway
 - 1st & 2nd Grade, Door #9 Fairfield entrance, just north of the main church doors
 - 3rd & 4th Grade, Door #4 Kane Hall entrance
 - 5th & 6th Grade, Door #3 Library entrance doors off of 102nd Street
 - 7th & 8th Grade, Door #1 Main Office Doors, 10200 S. Washtenaw

Important Announcements

- **School Supply drop-off for grades kindergarten – 3rd** is **Tuesday, August 24th from 4-6pm**. All other students should bring their supplies ([list linked here](#)) on the first day of school.
- This year *we will return to our regular Wednesday schedule* and dismiss at 2:55 for grades pre-k – 8 with the exception of 1:00 dismissals on: **November 3rd, December 1st, February 2nd, March 2nd, April 6th, and May 4th** for faculty and staff professional development and PLC work.
- **Summer Math and Reading Packets** for **grades 1st – 8th** are [posted here](#). Please make sure your student completes this summer prep work **prior** to the first day of school which is August 25th.
- If you ordered the back to school **Future is Bright T-shirts** but did not pick up your order at Packet Pick-up Night, we will send home your order with your child this week. These t-shirts can be worn on Fridays with the students' uniform bottoms.

- **School Uniforms:** Please see pages 15-16 of our Student Handbook [linked here](#). Uniforms can be purchased at Schools' Are Us, 3146 West 111th Street, Chicago 60655.
- The roller-skating party is back! Please **save the date for our back-to-school skating party on Thursday, August 26th** in the church parking lot.
- The **parish picnic is back!** Please save the date for **Sunday, August 29th** and see the flyer below for more information.
- This year, **SJF Staff and Faculty will utilize the .us e-mail account.** [Click here for a directory](#) of all updated e-mail addresses.
- **LICE:** A few cases of lice have been reported to school recently. Please carefully check your child's head prior to the start of school. Thank you!
- **THANK YOU to all of the VOLUNTEERS** who helped us move furniture, AC units, books, etc. over the summer. You are so very appreciated!

COVID Update

We are in this together...thank you for your cooperation!

- Please review the most recent communication from the archdiocese [linked here](#). These guidelines will be reviewed every two weeks and are subject to change.
- A few details to highlight:
 - All symptomatic individuals must remain home, regardless of vaccination status.
 - If symptoms last longer than 24 hours, individuals must receive a negative COVID-19 test or alternative medical diagnosis prior to returning to school.
 - Masks are required for all students and staff indoors regardless of vaccination status.

Employment Opportunities at SJF

- SJF is seeking a **full-time Maintenance person** to join our team! Maintenance staff is responsible for daily repair tasks, identifying building needs and improvements, projecting necessary resources, providing oversight for minor construction projects, and capital improvement projects. Maintenance hours are 7 a.m. – 3 p.m. Interested candidates should e-mail Maura Nash, mnash@sjfschool.us.

MANNA Update

- In-person Manna Selling Hours are: **M 8-9:30 AM, W 6-7:30PM, TH 8-9:30AM, F 2-3PM, SAT 8:30-9:30AM, SUN 10:30-11:30AM.** Stop in or use the [RAISE RIGHT APP ON-THE GO](#).
- Many families are getting used to the App and finding it much easier to meet the requirement without much hassle thru everyday purchases.
- With your support, we hope we can get closer to the \$100,000 school fundraising goal to help balance the school budget and maintain competitive tuition rates.
- **Please fill out the Manna Waiver Form** [linked here](#) in order to have your Manna gift card orders sent home with your child. This waiver must be filled out, even if you filled out a waiver last year.
- Check out the [Manna website](#) for more info. Email the Manna team at Sjfmanna@gmail.com with any questions.



2021-2022 Abbreviated Calendar



*Below is a list of important dates for the 2021-2022 school year. Because of the unpredictable world we live in, these dates are subject to change. We are hopeful for a more “normal” school year ahead!

- First Day of School: **8.25** ~ 11:30 dismissal
- Labor Day – No School: **9.6**
- All-Staff Professional Development (no classes): **9.24**
- Parent Teacher Conferences: **10.6, 10.7**
- No School: **10.8**
- Columbus Day – No School: **10.11**
- Thanksgiving Break: **11.24 – 11.28** *classes resume **11.29**
- Christmas Break: **12.22 – 1.5** *classes resume **1.6**
- Martin Luther King Day – No School: **1.17**
- Parent Teacher Conferences: **2.17**
- President’s Day Break: **2.18 – 2.21** *classes resume **2.22**
- All-Staff Religious Formation & Professional Development (no classes): **3.14**
- Spring Break: **4.13 – 4.24** *classes resume **4.25**
- Memorial Day – No School: **5.30**
- Last Day of 8th Grade Classes: **6.1**
- Last Day of School: **6.8** ~ 10:30 dismissal

***Parent-teacher conferences are scheduled earlier next year** with the intent to make a formal connection with parents weeks before the first marking period in an effort to partner and support students’ needs sooner and PRIOR to the end of the first trimester.

***1 p.m. dismissals** are scheduled for the first Wednesday of the following months for faculty meetings and PLC work: **November 3rd, December 1st, February 2nd, March 2nd, April 6th, May 4th.**

Welcome Home Falcons! Come as you are. You are loved.



A Prayer For Our Students

Lord, thank you for the **unique gifts** of every child as they transition into a new school year. Fill each student with **fresh enthusiasm** and a heart that is excited to learn and grow. Cover them with your **enduring love**, give them **confidence and grace**, and equip them with the ability to **persevere** through trials. Bless their teachers with **wisdom, understanding, and a heart to serve**, as they embark on the journey together!

Amen!





2021-2022 St. John Fisher School Contacts

If you have a question or concern...

- Assignments
- Homework
- Class Activities

Contact [Classroom Teacher](#) by email or note.

- Discipline
- Classroom Behavior
- Specific Incidents

Start by contacting the [Classroom Teacher](#) for an appointment.
If further assistance is needed, contact SJF Assistant Principal, Mrs. Claire Larmon: clarmon@sifschool.us

- Reporting Attendance

E-mail attendance@sifschool.us

- Schedules
- Calendar
- Arrival/Dismissal
- Miscellaneous Questions
- Hot Lunch

Mrs. Kate Spadoni: kspadoni@sifschool.us

- Registration
- Admissions
- Medical Forms

Contact the school office at 773-445-4737, or Mrs. Linda Murray: lmurray@sifschool.us

- Powerschool
- Tuition
- Fees
- Technology

Mrs. Delphine Maxwell: dmaxwell@sifschool.us

- Virtus Training and Compliance
- Religious Education
- Extended Day Program
- Manna Program

Virtus, Mrs. Redmond: mredmond@sifschool.net
Religious Education, Dr. Chermak: echermak@sifschool.us
Extended Day, Mrs. O'Grady: dogrady@sifschool.us
Manna Team: sjfmanna@gmail.com

- Counseling, pre-k – 4th

SJF Counselor, Mrs. Lauren Lordo: llordo@sifschool.us

- Counseling, 5th – 8th
- iReady

SJF Counselor and Assistant Principal, Student Support
Mrs. Nichole Carey: ncarey@sifschool.us

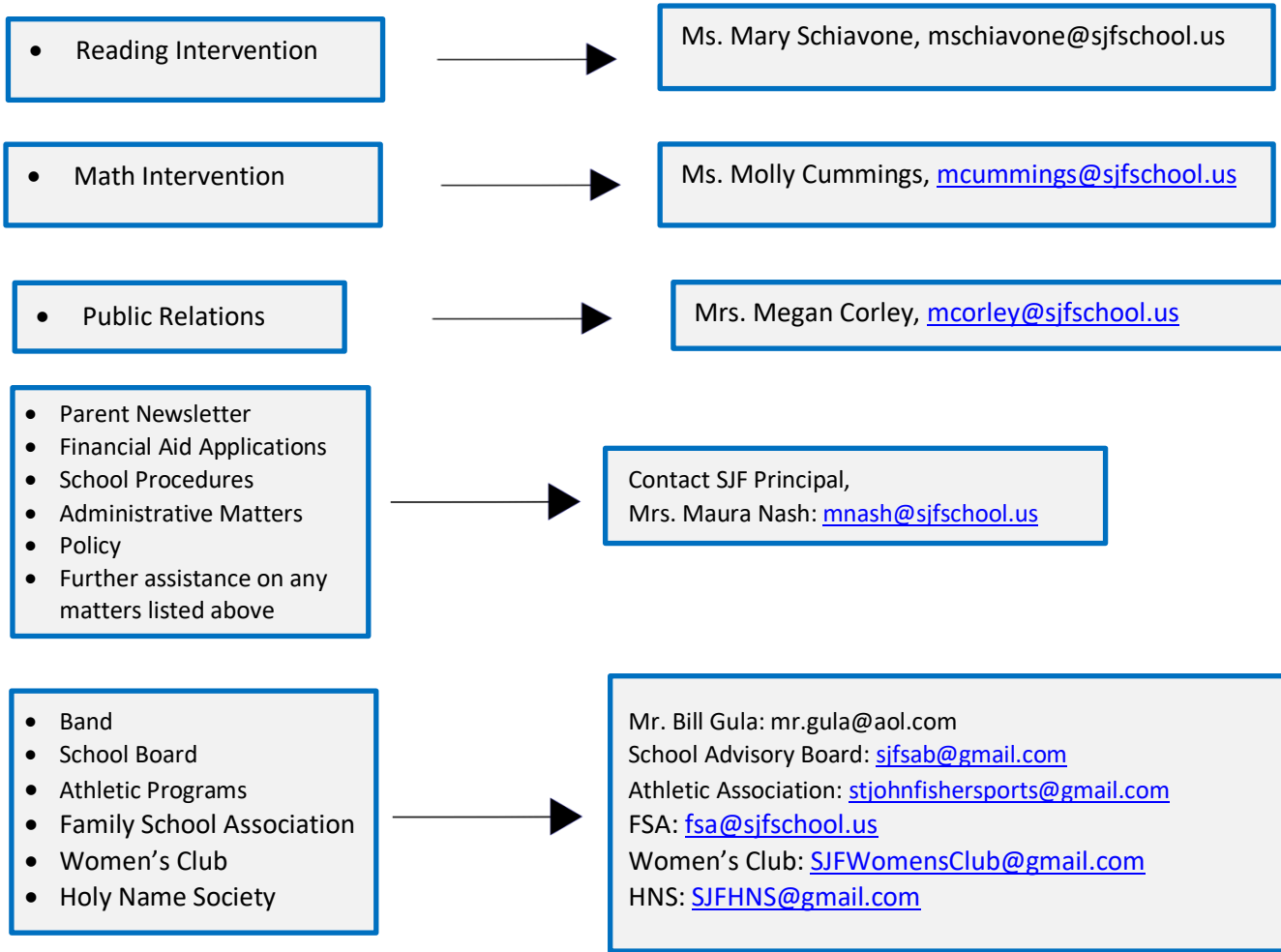
- Student Accommodation Plans

Mrs. Win Biernacki (K-4): wbiernacki@sifschool.us
Mrs. Karen Brogan (5-8): kbrogan@sifschool.us



2021-2022 St. John Fisher School Contacts

If you have a question or concern...





SJF FACULTY UPDATES 2021-2022 SCHOOL YEAR

SJF is sad to announce the departure of Ms. Erin Deering, 5th and 6th grade Social Studies and Mrs. Camie O'Shea, 5th and 6th grade Science. Ms. Deering and Mrs. O'Shea have taken new opportunities in the public school setting. We are grateful for the many years they have dedicated to our school and we wish them nothing but the best in their new roles!

Currently, our world is experiencing a significant teacher shortage. This trend is impacting many of the schools in our area. We cannot express enough the overwhelming appreciation we have for our incredibly talented faculty and staff who sacrifice so much to work at St. John Fisher School. We are excited to announce the below faculty transitions and welcome our new faculty members to the SJF Family!

Faculty Transitions

Mrs. Diane O'Grady, 3-year-old pre-school aide and Director of Extended Day

Mrs. Katie Ball, 1st grade

Mrs. Laura Kovatch, 4th grade ELA and Spelling

Mrs. Sherry Hughes & Mrs. Phyllis Sullivan, 4th grade Science and Math

Mrs. Courtney Namoff, 4th grade Social Studies, Religion and Grammar

Mr. Niko Kutsulis, 5th & 6th grade Social Studies

Mrs. Patrice Folliard, 7th & 8th grade Religion and Math Support

Ms. Noreen Higgins, 7th & 8th grade Global Studies

Mrs. Megan Corley, Part-time Art and Public Relations

Ms. Lindsey Surin, Part-time Art and Primary Aide

Welcome New Faculty Members!

Mrs. Janet Otto, 3-year-old part-time Pre-school and Resource Support

Ms. Krista DiBennardi, 5th & 6th grade Science

Ms. Molly Cummings, 5th & 6th grade Math, PLC Coordinator and Math Intervention

Mrs. Isabel Flores, full-time Spanish Teacher for grades 2nd - 8th

Together Our Future is Bright!

ST. JOHN FISHER BACK TO SCHOOL

ROLLER SKATING PARTY!!



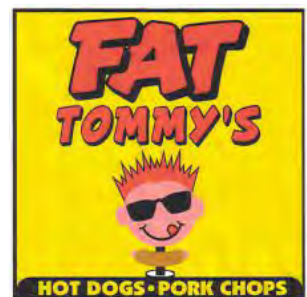
Thursday, August 26th

6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

St. John Fisher Parking Lot

Roll on in with your Roller Skates,
Roller Blades, or Scooters
NO BIKES ALLOWED

**FAT TOMMY'S HOT DOG CART
WILL BE ON HAND SELLING
HOT DOGS, CHIPS, AND ICE CREAM**



AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE:
Glow necklaces, bracelets, headbands and candy
All proceeds benefit SJF FSA

ST. John Fisher

Parish

FOOD • FAMILY • FAITH

PICNIC

Beverly Park



CELEBRATE BACK TO SCHOOL WITH MASS IN
THE PARK.

AUGUST 29TH • 11:00 AM MASS

Stay for some Food & Football!

A SJF Tradition - Blue/Gray Football Scrimmages

1:00 pm - 4th Grade

2:00 pm - 5th & 6th Grade

3:00 pm - 7th & 8th Grade