



April 2019

Dear Families,

Enthusiasm continues to grow for All Saints Catholic Academy. Enrollment has increased more than 18% in the past two months. This increase has resulted in having multiple sections for grades 2 through 8, allowing for class sizes in the teens and twenties. It is extremely likely the enrollment, currently 289, will exceed 300 students when school begins in August!

We are pleased to share our recent joint venture with Catholic Charities to provide transportation and child care for families living in the southern part of Rockford or attend St. Edwards School. Catholic Charities will provide a bus to transport children from St. Edwards School to All Saints Catholic Academy. At the end of the school day there will be the return trip to St. Edwards School or St. Elizabeth Center for their excellent after school program. There will be a nominal cost for the transportation and after school care program of \$6.25 per day.

The curriculum continues to progress. All Kindergarten through grade 5 and middle school level Science teachers have received training in the nationally recognized STEM curriculum *Project Lead The Way*, which will be the Science curriculum. Teachers look forward to implementing this truly 21st century educational program. To further ensure students will have the opportunity to be successful a focus of the curriculum will be written communication and writing skills. The successful *6 Traits of Writing* program, already in place at schools, will continue at all grade levels to ensure this opportunity. Teachers are currently completing a review of Mathematics and Religion curriculums for adoption the coming school year.

Preparations are being finalized for physical changes. This includes new signage to All Saints Catholic Academy. Our school logo, name, and school colors will begin to appear in the gym at the start of the summer. Of course, summer will involve the usual cleaning and maintenance of our school. However, there is the tremendous task ahead of moving equipment, materials, supplies, and more from Cathedral of St. Peter and St. Edwards to All Saints Catholic Academy. It will definitely be a busy summer.

To complete all of the tasks ahead volunteers will be needed. This will involve moving, general cleaning, some painting, and more. If you can be of assistance, please contact the St. James School office at 815-962-8515.

As stated earlier, there will be multiple sections for grades. These sections will have students of mixed abilities and as equal a number of boys and girls as possible. At different grade levels these sections may change to accommodate groupings appropriate for expected differences in various subjects. Since our school continues to see its enrollment increase, the grouping of students will not be finalized until shortly before the start of the school year.

You can expect a school calendar to be published in late April and school supply lists by mid-May. Both of these will be posted on the All Saints Catholic Academy website ---

www.allsaintsrockford.org

We are working with FACTS to finalize the application process for tuition assistance for next school year. Hopefully this will be ready by the end of April. Once it is you will be notified via a School Speak email and/or announcement.

The All Saints Catholic Academy staff and administration look forward to offering your children tremendous opportunities that will provide them with skills and knowledge for future success.

Sincerely,

Renee Payne
Head of School

James Burns
Principal