

# The Sentinel

September 4, 2019

## Principal's Message

As announced in the August newsletter, one of the exciting changes at All Saints this year is the implementation of **Positive Behavioral Interventions & Supports (PBIS)**, a new approach to classroom management. This week I wish to provide an introduction to PBIS and some of the key details regarding our first year roll-out.

The Positive Behavioral Interventions & Supports (PBIS) framework aims to maximize the use of evidence-based prevention and intervention practices along a multi-tiered continuum that supports the academic, social, emotional, spiritual, and behavioral competence of all students.

Together, the All Saints faculty and staff are working to develop a *positive, predictable, and safe environment* that will promote strong inter-personal relationships with students and between students through teaching, modeling, and encouragement. Students will be taught to use relevant and expected social skills for themselves and with others. This will create a school climate that is positive, trustworthy, and respectful.

In teaching students expected behaviors, teachers will model or demonstrate the behavior, students will practice the behavior, and teachers will provide feedback. Students will continue to refine the expected behavior over an on-going basis. When multiple attempts at redirecting are not successful, the All Saints faculty and staff have crafted the Student Incident Report which will be part of the multi-tiered "continuum". Parents will be notified through a copy of the Student Incident Report that will be sent home. Together with administration (when necessary), faculty and staff members will implement appropriate supports and disciplinary measures for students.

The following is a brief overview of the three tiers that will be used school-wide.

**Tier 1-Universal Practices-** These are expected of all students in all environments throughout the school. They establish a predictable, consistent, positive, faith-filled and safe school climate.

**Tier 2-Targeted Practices**-These are designed to address student behaviors that need more structure, feedback, instruction, and support than in Tier 1 alone.

**Tier 3-Indicated Practices**-These are designed to directly address more challenging student behavior than in Tiers 1 and 2.

This research-based program will be further strengthened through the integration of our Catholic identity and commitment to virtue formation, the distinguishing hallmarks of our school.

I want to thank Mrs. Horgan for leading this project and the many teachers who have assisted with the research and planning. Through their efforts and leadership, we will be further transforming the climate and culture of our school as we strive to provide the best formation possible for our students.

The faculty will be meeting on the afternoon of September 27<sup>th</sup>, our professional development day, to discuss and plan for the next steps. I look forward to providing you periodic updates regarding our efforts and the implementation process. As always, should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to let us know.

*With God All Things Are Possible!*

### **Formation in Christian Chastity Program**

The safety of your children is always a top priority at All Saints. In accordance with national initiatives and diocesan policy, we have taken additional steps to do our part to ensure that your children are in a safe place when they are participating in a program at All Saints Catholic School. The *Formation in Christian Chastity Program* is one part of our commitment to maintaining a safe environment for our students. As outlined in the online materials, information is provided primarily to parents as a resource to be used in the formation of their children. There is one classroom lesson for students in grades one through four and two lessons for those in grades five through eight.

We will be integrating the objectives of the program into our religion lessons during the next three weeks beginning on Monday, September 9<sup>th</sup>. The entire curriculum can be accessed through the diocesan website at the following link:

## Formation in Christian Chastity

You are encouraged to spend some time reviewing this information yourself and to then share pertinent aspects with your children. Each of the lessons contains some application to common sense safety tips that you may wish to share with your children. Other parts of the resources apply to some of the decisions that you make as parents for the safety of your children. Our goal is to equip both you and your children with the knowledge that can help to keep them safe.

The essential point is that parents need to be involved with their children. The more you know about the daily events of your child's life, the better you are able to spot any danger signs that may surface. The more regular communication you have with your children, the freer they are to come to you with their concerns.

Should you have any questions about the *Formation in Christian Chastity Program* or about the classroom lessons, please do not hesitate to let us know. In the event that you would prefer to not have your child participate in the classroom training, please contact the front office to request an opt-out form.

### **Middle School Back to School Night (September 12<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00 p.m.)**

Back to School Night for parents of students in grades 6-8 will take place on Thursday, September 12<sup>th</sup> beginning at 7:00 p.m. Parents are asked to report directly to their son or daughter's homeroom classroom for the opening session. Don't miss what will be an exciting overview of our middle school experience!

### **Volunteers Needed**

The Cafeteria/Lunchroom is in need of volunteers to assist with serving milk, food, ice cream and smiles. We are in need of volunteers who can make a regular once a week commitment but welcome bimonthly or once a month as well. The cafeteria serves each day from 11am to 1pm, there are multiple time slots on each day. All cafeteria volunteers must be Virtus certified and all NEW cafeteria volunteers must complete a brief five minute health department training. All available slots and health department training sessions are listed on Help Counter:

<https://www.helpcounterweb.com/ci/signup/140e9a4d205>

If you are interested but would like more specific information, please contact Carol Rice [ckrice@verizon.net](mailto:ckrice@verizon.net) 703-380-5990 Thank you for considering serving the school in this very unique and fulfilling role.

### ***Volunteers Needed for the Helping Hands Project on September 19th***

We are in need of volunteers to help our teachers. Parents don't need to be VIRTUS compliant in order to help and young children are welcome. Opportunities can be found by using the HelpCounter

link: <https://www.helpcounterweb.com/ci/signup/140ea4771ed>. If you have any questions, please contact Theresa Zahorchak, [TZahorchak@outlook.com](mailto:TZahorchak@outlook.com).

### **Seton School invitation to "Daughters of the King"**

Middle school and high school aged girls are cordially invited to participate in "Daughters of the King" at Seton School on Saturday, September 28<sup>th</sup>.

"Daughters of the King" is a day of faith building activities, dinner, an inspiring keynote speaker, fashion show and entertainment. The day also includes self-defense instruction and even a few amusements. To sign up now, click here: [DOTK 2019](#)

Please register by Friday, Sep 13<sup>th</sup>! Registration includes a t-shirt. For more information, click on links at the end of today's newsletter. If you have any questions, please contact: [kimberly@dalrymple5.com](mailto:kimberly@dalrymple5.com)

## **IMPORTANT REMINDERS**

### **School Messenger Emergency Notification System**

In order to ensure the effectiveness of our emergency communication system, All Saints will conduct a test on Friday, September 6<sup>th</sup>. A test message will be issued via recorded phone message, text and email to the emergency contacts of all students and staff at approximately 10:30 a.m.

To sign up for text alerts via *SchoolMessenger*, simply text the word "subscribe" to 68453. To opt out of all text messages from *SchoolMessenger*, go to <http://www.schoolmessenger.com/txtmsg/> or reply STOP to the opt-in message you

receive.

The Diocese and the school do not pay for text message charges that may be incurred by the user. Check with your wireless carrier for possible charges.

### **Parent ~ Student Handbooks**

The 2019-2020 Parent-Student Handbook can be accessed electronically via our website and may be found at the following link:

[Parent-Student Handbook 2019-2020](#)

Please take some time to review the policies and procedures of our school and discuss them with your children. Each family is asked to sign and return the acknowledgment form as soon as possible. Those families without access to the website are invited to contact the office to request a hard copy of the handbook.

### **New Parent Coffee**

All new parents are invited to enjoy "Coffee with the Principal" on Tuesday, September 10<sup>th</sup> beginning at 9:00 a.m. in the Parish Activities Center. Following a presentation, there will be time for questions and discussion about our school community and its many programs. Babysitting services will be offered in an adjacent meeting room. Plan to attend and meet other new families who have recently joined our community!

*Parents in their second year at All Saints are cordially invited to attend this event as well!*

### **Student In-Service ~ Sexual Harassment, Our Policy & Response (Grades 6-8)**

In accordance with diocesan policy, students in grades six through eight will participate in a brief classroom presentation within the next three weeks on the topic of the prevention of sexual harassment. Again this year, in consideration of the sensitivity of the topic, the training will be offered in a single-sex environment with Mr. Conroy addressing the boys while Mrs. Horgan will present to the girls. Each of the grade-level lessons will be approximately fifteen minutes in length and include an overview of the diocesan policy as well as an explanation as to how students should respond if they encounter any behaviors of this nature. Should you have any questions about this policy or presentation, please do not hesitate to contact the principal.

### **Background Checks – Policies for School Parent Volunteers**

As part of the diocesan initiative to maintain a safe environment for all of our children, all volunteers in the school are required to complete a background check prior to working in the school and to complete VIRTUS training within 45 days of submitting the background check application.

In accordance with diocesan policy, full compliance for an adult parent volunteer is not required for *open* events. (An open event is one that is open to the public, infrequent and publicized, such as Field Day, concerts and special events/assemblies.) However,

full compliance is required for adult parent volunteers who wish to participate in closed events. (A closed event is one that is not entirely open to the general public such as classroom activities, parties, field trips, etc.) For this reason, all parents who wish to attend field trips or volunteer in support of classroom activities are required to complete the background check process and attend VIRTUS training.

The online application for the diocesan background check can be found at the following link:

[https://secure4.arlingtondiocese.org/OPCYP\\_application](https://secure4.arlingtondiocese.org/OPCYP_application)

To register for VIRTUS training which is hosted at parishes and schools throughout our diocese, please follow the link below. Note: There will be a VIRTUS session offered at All Saints on September 14<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. in Father Kelley Hall.

[www.virtus.org](http://www.virtus.org)

### **Upcoming Events**

*Wednesday, September 4<sup>th</sup>*

- Pre-Kindergarten – Noon Dismissal
- Deadline: Parent-Student Handbook Acknowledgment Forms
- Faculty Meeting (3:30 p.m.)

*Thursday, September 5<sup>th</sup>*

- Pre-Kindergarten – Noon Dismissal
- Back-to-School Night for Grades 1-5 & PTO Meeting (PAC/7:00 p.m.)

*Friday, September 6<sup>th</sup>*

- Pre-Kindergarten – Noon Dismissal
- School Mass (8:30 a.m.)
- Lock-Down Drill (10:00 a.m.)
- *SchoolMessenger* System Test (10:30 a.m.)

*Monday, September 9<sup>th</sup>*

- Scantron Testing Begins - Grades 3-7 (Through September 27<sup>th</sup>)
- *Formation in Christian Chastity Program* Begins (Through September 27<sup>th</sup>)
- Confessions – 4A (9:15 a.m.) & 4B (9:35 a.m.)

*Tuesday, September 10<sup>th</sup>*

- New Parent Coffee (PAC/9:00 a.m.)
- Confessions – 3A (9:15 a.m.)

- Band Parents Meeting & Registration (Music Room/7:00 p.m.)
- PTO Executive Committee Meeting (7:00 p.m.)

*Wednesday, September 11<sup>th</sup>*

- Confessions – 5A (9:15 a.m.) & 5B (9:35 a.m.)

*Thursday, September 12<sup>th</sup>*

- Confessions – 3B (9:15 a.m.)
- Middle School Night (7:00 p.m.)

*Friday, September 13<sup>th</sup>*

- School Mass – St. John Chrysostom (8:30 a.m.)
- Priests' Barbecue (11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.)

*Saturday, September 14<sup>th</sup>*

- VIRTUS Training (FKH/9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.)

### **Newsletter Links**

- [Parent-Student Handbook 2019-2020](#)
- [Cafeteria Volunteers Needed Flyer](#)
- [Help Counter](#)
- [Seton - Daughters of the King Signup Flyer](#)
- [Seton - Daughters of the King 2019 Poster with link](#)
- [Online Application for Diocesan Background Check Application](#)
- [VIRTUS](#) – use this link to sign up for VIRTUS training sessions