

# The Sentinel

September 11, 2019

## Principal's Message

This week I would like to take an opportunity to provide a few reminders regarding our arrival and dismissal procedures.

*Morning Arrival* – During morning arrival, parents are asked to refrain from dropping off their children prior to 7:40 a.m., the time at which the staff and Safety Patrols begin their supervision of students as they enter the school. Safety Patrols may be dropped off early in the courtyard prior to the official start of the day. However, any other students dropped off prior to 7:40 a.m. must be signed-in at Extended Day in Father Kelley Hall. Additionally, all parents/guardians are asked to participate in the arrival system, remaining in their vehicles unless entering the school to volunteer or drop-off items.

*Afternoon Dismissal* – All parents are reminded to participate in the afternoon dismissal process by parking in their assigned area, i.e. either the front or rear lots. Exceptions are granted for the following parents who may park in front of the church: Pre-Kindergarten parents, parents completing volunteer hours in the school during the afternoon, those awaiting the drop-off of students from Catholic high schools and those who are parents of Safety Patrols or students attending after-school activities.

*As a service to parents, the Safety Patrols are pleased to offer assistance to any parents who are unable to leave their vehicle during afternoon pick-up. In such cases, parents are asked to write the name of their child/ren as well as the corresponding grade levels on an 8.5 x 11 piece of paper or card stock and to hold it out the driver's side window. After collecting the signs, the Safety Patrols will pick-up the children from their lines and escort them to their vehicles.*

During both morning arrival and afternoon dismissal, we ask that parents refrain from turning left when entering and exiting the property during times of heavy traffic. This is very important so as not to cause delays on Stonewall Road and at the intersection with Route 28. This will help to foster positive public relations with our neighbors and community partners.

*Parish Office Restroom Policy* – The restroom located in the Parish Office is not available for parent and student use at the time of dismissal. In an effort to maintain an office environment in which services may be provided to parishioners and community members in a confidential manner, parents and students are asked to use the restroom facilities available in the church. As always, in the interest of student safety, parents are asked to supervise their children should they wish to visit the church for this purpose.

*In advance, thank you for your support of our efforts to ensure a safe and secure arrival and dismissal for our students, staff and parents.*

*With God All Things Are Possible!*

### **School Messenger Emergency Notification ~ Results of Test**

Last week's test of the *SchoolMessenger* notification system was a success. In the event that you did not receive messages via phone, text or email, please contact the school office so that we may update your contact information accordingly.

### **Paul VI Catholic High School**

Paul VI Catholic High School will be hosting their annual OPEN HOUSE on Sunday, October 27th from 1-4 pm at the Fairfax Campus.

Group presentations will take place at 1:15 and 2:15 in Father Heet Auditorium. This is a perfect opportunity for 6th, 7th and 8th graders and their families to explore the benefits of a Catholic high school education. Visit [www.paulvi.net](http://www.paulvi.net) or [ehanley@pvipanther.net](mailto:ehanley@pvipanther.net) for additional information about PVI.

Current 8th graders are encouraged to set up a PANTHER FOR A DAY experience by emailing [gfarello@pvipanther.net](mailto:gfarello@pvipanther.net).

Middle School students and their families are invited to Middle School Night Under the Lights at Paul VI Catholic High School in Fairfax. Join us at 6:00PM on Friday, October 4th for pizza, tee shirts, games and tons of prizes. All are invited to join the VI Man cheering on our Panther varsity football team. Free to all and no reservations are needed.

Email: [ehanley@pvipanther.net](mailto:ehanley@pvipanther.net) with questions.

## **IMPORTANT REMINDERS**

### **Middle School Back to School Night (Tomorrow @ 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!

Note: There will be a special meeting for 8<sup>th</sup> grade parents regarding the high school application process from 6:15 – 6:50 p.m. and again from 9:00 – 9:30 p.m. in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade classrooms.

### **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)

### **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).

## **Upcoming Events**

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

- Confessions – 3B (9:15 a.m.)
- Diocesan Photo Shoot for Marketing Program
- 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.)

*Monday, September 16<sup>th</sup>*

- SCA Installation Ceremony of Newly Elected Officers & Classroom Representatives (PAC/1:30 p.m.)

*Tuesday, September 17<sup>th</sup>*

- Band Lessons Begin
- Room Liaisons Meeting (PAC Atrium/7:00 p.m.)

*Wednesday, September 18<sup>th</sup>*

- Confessions – 6A (9:15 a.m.) & 6B (9:35 a.m.)

*Thursday, September 19<sup>th</sup>*

- Spirit Wear Day
- PTO Helping Hands (PAC/9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.)
- Enrollment Management Team Meeting (PLC/7:00 p.m.)

*Friday, September 20<sup>th</sup>*

- School Mass – Ss. Andrew Kim Tae-Gon & Paul Chong Ha-Sang and Companions (8:30 a.m.)

### **Newsletter Links**

- [PVI Open House Post Card 19](#)
- [PVI Middle School Night 2019](#)
- [Parent-Student Handbook 2019-2020](#)
- [Cafeteria Volunteers Needed Flyer](#)
- [Help Counter](#)
- [Online Application for Diocesan Background Check Application](#)
- [VIRTUS](#) – use this link to sign up for VIRTUS training sessions