

All Saints Catholic School

My spirit rejoices in God my Savior.

The Sentinel Newsletter

March 22, 2023

Principal's Message

During Catholic Schools Week, we invited parents to participate in the *Net Promoter Survey*, an instrument designed to measure the level of satisfaction with our school. I am grateful to the 156 parents who responded to the survey question, a number of whom provided detailed feedback regarding their experiences in our program.

A summary of the *Net Promoter Survey (2023)* results as well as an analysis of the feedback can be found at the link below.

SURVEY SUMMARY

As this is the fifth time that we have administered this survey since 2011, we are able to track the data through the years and compare outcomes. After reviewing the trend, I am pleased to share that our current *Net Promoter Score* of +58 is the second highest we have achieved using this metric.

As the data indicates, the caring nature, dedication, and effectiveness of our teachers and staff remain key drivers in the level of parent satisfaction with our program. At a time in which the work of being a teacher is unquestionably more complex than ever, our faculty continue to work very hard each day to truly make a difference in the lives of their students.

I have already shared the survey results with our teachers who will be meeting in their instructional teams to respond to the three areas most frequently identified by parents as areas for continued improvement, i.e. student discipline, extracurricular activities, and the academic program (math). As these brainstorming sessions are beginning to take place, the school is already advancing initiatives that align with this feedback. The following is a brief summary of efforts already underway to address these three areas.

Student Discipline

Recognizing that the social-emotional needs of students in this post-pandemic era are greater than previously seen and that this continues to impact their shared experiences in our school in a variety of ways, we are continuing to reteach and model basic expectations and behaviors. The PBIS (Positive Behavioral Interventions & Strategies) Committee continues to take the lead in identifying strategies for addressing these priorities within the school.

As we plan for the upcoming academic year, classroom management and the goal of providing meaningful support to foster student self-discipline will be an area of focus in our professional development planning.

Related to these efforts, and in accordance with our *Design for Excellence* (DFE) Five-Year Plan, next year we will also begin to explore the possibility of hiring a second school counselor for the 2024-2025 academic year.

Extracurricular Activities

In response to the survey data, the Enrollment Management Team is already discussing potential options for expanding opportunities for our students to participate in after-school activities. An important consideration will be the process for recruiting parent volunteers to serve as moderators for these student groups. With an organizational process in place and with the support of parent volunteers, we will be better positioned to respond to student requests and their interest in particular activities.

Math Program

With the launch of *First in Math*, our students are now engaged in a robust platform that will strengthen their fact fluency and understanding of problem-solving skills. I am excited that with each passing week, our students continue to gain ground using the software. As of today, our students are approaching the completion of 2 million math problems over an estimated 5,000 hours of practice since just prior to Christmas. I remain confident that all of this time and effort will result in gains for our students in their mathematical understanding as measured through our standardized testing program.

Although this program offers great promise for our students, it is specifically designed to reinforce the teaching and learning that is taking place in the classrooms each day. Related to this, and as part of our DFE 5-Year Plan, we have convened a Math Textbook Review Committee that is exploring options for our school for the upcoming year.

As you can see, there is a lot of good work taking place behind the scenes to strengthen these three areas. I am grateful for the involvement of our faculty and staff in this process and look forward to sharing periodic updates as decisions are made and new programs are implemented.

In the meantime, thank you again for participating in this survey. I greatly appreciate the opportunity to hear from you and to receive your feedback as we plan for the year ahead. The future of All Saints continues to look very bright and I'm so happy that you and your family are a part of it!

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Rice Bowl Lunch (Friday, March 31)

As we approach the conclusion of Lent, we want to thank you for encouraging your children to participate in the CRS Rice Bowl project. This initiative has provided our students a very specific way to embrace the practice of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving during this liturgical season.

In support of the effort, on Friday, March 31, our school will sponsor a simple lunch, the proceeds of which will benefit the Rice Bowl project. As a sign of our solidarity with the poor around the world and in an effort to help the students gain a better understanding of poverty, the lunch will consist of one bowl of rice and water. This will be the only food and drink available for purchase on that day. Although participation is completely voluntary, we are hopeful that many of the children will embrace this opportunity and recognize it as a chance to increase their empathy for those suffering in our world.

The cost of the lunch is \$5.00 and should be submitted as a cash donation rather than through the online lunch accounts. The proceeds will be donated to Catholic Relief Services (CRS) as part of our Lenten Rice Bowl project. Students may bring a lunch from home if they prefer and are reminded to bring a drink if they so choose as only water will be available in the cafeteria.

Marymount University Annual Stem Event

Please see the link below for more information

Marymount University Annual Stem Event

Important Reminders

During this Lenten season, we are pleased to host the All Saints' **Bread of Life Food Drive** (BOLD) to benefit the Bethany Food Pantry and St. Lucy Project from March 20 – 31, 2023.

All Saints' Bread of Life Food Drive will assist individuals and families in our local community in need of food assistance. Please see details below regarding our 2023 food drive.

Almost a quarter of a million people in the Arlington Diocese are "food insecure," meaning they do not know where their next meal will come from. Our school's Bread of Life Food Drive will benefit the St. Lucy Project and All Saints' Bethany Food Pantry to assist families and individuals living within Manassas, Manassas Park, and Prince William County.

During the drive from March 20-31, your child can bring in food donations in the morning and leave them in the boxes that will be outside of each classroom. Donations can also be brought to the All Saints school office (Monday - Thursday) between the hours of 8:00 AM–3:30 PM.

During the first week of the drive, we will be collecting non-perishable food per the chart below. During the second week, we are adding fresh fruits and vegetables to our collection. Please see the grade level list below:

If you have any questions regarding the Bread of Life Food Drive, please contact Mrs. Janis DeVore at <u>jdevore@allsaintsva.org</u>.

Employment Opportunities

Spanish Teacher for Grades 1 & 2 – Immediate Opening.

The schedule for the week is as follows: Monday (11:52 a.m. - 12:36 p.m.), Tuesday (2:12 - 2:52 p.m.), and Thursday (1:25 - 2:52 p.m.). This position is a wonderful opportunity for individuals who may be considering a career in education.

For more information about this position or to apply, please contact the principal at <u>dconroy@allsaintsva.org</u>.

Running with the Saints 5K

Race registration and sponsorship is now open for All Saints Catholic School's annual <u>Running</u> <u>with the Saints 5K</u>. This year's event will be held on Saturday, April 1 at 8:00AM. Runners and walkers of all ability levels are welcome! Starting at All Saints Catholic School, our race course winds through nearby Manassas neighborhoods. The event features RaceWire timing for race enthusiasts, musical entertainment, and a family-friendly atmosphere.

Saturday, April 1, 2023 at 8:00 AM

All Saints Catholic School 9294 Stonewall Rd — Manassas

Race Pricing: Adults: \$30 / Children: \$20

Link to Race Registration: https://racewire.com/register.php?id=13396

Sponsorship Opportunities

The *Running with the Saints 5K* provides an excellent opportunity to promote your business while supporting All Saints' students and teachers. By becoming a Race Sponsor, you can advertise your goods and services to race participants and the All Saints community, a parish of over 7,100 local families.

See below for details on sponsorship packages and learn how your business can support this fun, familyfriendly community event!

> Sponsorship levels available for all budgets! Link to Online Sponsorship Information/Form: https://forms.parishgiving.org/form-6355335/

Upcoming Events

Thursday, March 23 Stations of the Cross – Grades K-8 (2:15 p.m.)

Friday, March 24 School Mass (8:30 a.m.) 8th Grade Confirmation Retreat for Girls Monday, March 27 Diocesan 8th Grade Vocations Day Activities Race for Education Kick-Off Assembly (2:30 p.m.) PTO Executive Committee Meeting (Science Lab & Zoom/7:00 p.m.)

Tuesday, March 28 Diocesan 8th Grade Vocations Mass at All Saints (Note: Cafeteria Closed. All students are asked to bring a lunch from home.)

Wednesday, March 29 PTO Sponsored Lenten Soup Supper (PAC/5:00 p.m.)

Thursday, March 30 National Junior Honor Society Induction Ceremony (1:30 p.m.) Faculty Meeting (3:30 – 5:00 p.m.)

Friday, March 31 School Mass (8:30 a.m.) 5th Grade Wax Museum (PAC/1:15 p.m.)

Saturday, April 1 Running with the Saints 5K (8:00 a.m.)

Monday, April 3 Change to Summer Uniforms

Tuesday, April 4 Diocesan Chrism Mass at All Saints (Note: Cafeteria Closed. All students are asked to bring a lunch from home.)

Wednesday, April 5 School Mass (8:30 a.m.)

Thursday, April 6 Holy Thursday 7th Grade Passion Play (PAC/10:45 a.m.) Noon Dismissal **Friday, April 7** Holiday – Good Friday

Monday, April 10 Easter Holiday Begins

Monday, April 17 School Resumes

Tuesday, April 18 After School Band Begins (3:00 – 3:45 p.m.)

Wednesday, April 19 3rd Grade United States Presentation (PAC/1:30 p.m.)

Thursday, April 20 Enrollment Management Team Meeting (7:00 p m.)

Friday, April 21 Bishop Burbidge School Visit School Mass (8:30 a.m.) Noon Dismissal