

JESUS WALKS WITH US ALWAYS



ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST | THE SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER – 2020

SEPTEMBER 15, 2020

PRINCIPAL'S NOTE

Back to School Night -- Back to School Night is a chance for parents to meet with teachers and learn how things will work in their child's classroom. Back to School Night is entirely online this year. It begins at 6 pm on Wednesday, Sept. 16, for parents of students in K-4 and at 7 pm for parents of students in grades 5-8. Here's the [whole schedule including links](#) to online Teams meetings.

After Care Update -- St. John the Baptist has decided to suspend the After Care program indefinitely due to smaller-than-expected enrollment and concerns about separating groups of students. The school will re-evaluate the decision in several weeks and may consider trying to launch the program in January.

Prayers for Mrs. Case's Father – We are praying for Julius Pericola, father of Mrs. Case, who passed away in Naples, Fla., on Monday. We are praying for Mrs. Case and her sisters, as well.



Chromebooks – What's the status?

SJB's Chromebook purchase has been halted by Montgomery County Public Schools. Reps of Archdiocesan Catholic Schools have asked MCPS to allow SJB and other Catholic schools to complete their purchases of safety equipment and technology with Cares Act money for covid-19 relief. If MCPS refuses, SJB will seek alternative funding for Chromebooks through fundraising sources including the H.S.A.



Coffee Hour (8:30-9:30am): What is it?

Feeling like the distance learning has you disconnected? Join us for a virtual parent coffee hour next week to connect with the principal and those in your class! Click on yours for the meeting link.

[K-2nd grade Tuesday, Sept 22.](#)

[3rd-4th grade Wednesday, Sept. 23.](#)

[Pre-K Friday, Sept. 25.](#)



Questions? You can submit questions to be answered at the next school board meeting on October 12 at 6 pm. Go to [this form to submit a question](#). Save the date!

School Board/Home School Association Kicks Off Planning for Family Flix Night

The school board met on Monday, September 14, 2020 and discussed ways for the school community to still enjoy some of their favorite traditions. One area of focus was the traditional "Family Flix Night" where students and their families would gather in the school field to watch a movie.

Can we consider a drive-in movie this year? The school board asked each other.

"We would need to be mindful about continuing to maintain social distancing rules, for this to work." Mr. Blomquist responded.

Jessie Fitzgerald will be meeting with others on the board to think about the feasibility of running this type of event.

"We'd likely have to split into two events, one for the older grades, and one for the younger." Mrs. Jeanine Regan pointed out. "But I think it is feasible."



- ▶ **SJB Masks:** Would you like to purchase some SJB gear? School masks are still available for purchase at school. They're \$15 each or two for \$20. Contact kalanni@msn.com.




- ▶ **HSA Fall Plant Sale** will continue this year! We are offering mums and flats of pansies in an assortment of colors. Limited quantities of additional items, including smaller quantities of the pansies, will be available for purchase at pick-up. Contact Mary Lombardo at maryjclg@gmail.com for details.

Did You Know? The School Board Meeting is open to the whole school? The board meets at 6 pm on the second Tuesday of every month. The meeting link is on the school calendar. If you have questions, issues, or want to hear updates about what the school is planning, please attend! It is more feasible than ever, given that the meetings are currently being held virtually. You can submit questions in advance to Mr. Blomquist using [this form](#). The form will be checked prior to each monthly school board meeting, and questions may be addressed during the Open Forum session. Routine board business is discussed for the first 30 minutes or so. It's a safe bet that the Open Forum will begin after 6:30 pm.

Reminder: Decisions for switching from distant learning to in-person learning are due September 16th. Look for the form on Wednesday.

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