



ST. PATRICK
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

PRESCHOOL THROUGH GRADE 12

WE PRAY! WE LEARN! WE ACHIEVE!

February 23, 2017

Dear Parents,

Thank you for helping St. Patrick School achieve another successful year. Our school enrollment continues to grow for a third straight year and we have added many academic and extracurricular options for our students, including a 1:1 Chromebook pilot program for our freshman class. These options will help to nourish your child in mind, body, and spirit. Registration for the 2017-18 school year is now here and we look forward to having you join us for another great school year!

It's an irrefutable fact that a St. Patrick School education provides your child(ren) with not only an outstanding curriculum infused with Catholic values, but with the foundation to succeed and achieve. The Class of 2016 received an average of more than \$20,500 each in scholarship money to the college of their choice.

Thank you for the sacrifices you make in sending your child(ren) to St. Patrick School. We are working hard to eliminate nominal fees and fundraisers through our Faithful Giving program and early indicators are proving this program to be successful. Your contribution to Faithful Giving is greatly appreciated as at least 40% of the church's offertory is used to support the school. The 40% of the Sunday collection amounts to \$380,000 or \$1,117 per student in assistance.

We are mindful of the immense financial sacrifices required to provide your child(ren) with a faith-based education and we are grateful for your commitment to St. Patrick. However, as we work to keep up with common cost of living increases, we know that we will need to increase tuition for the 2017-18 school year. At this time, we are looking at implementing a 3% raise in tuition. The actual cost of educating a student at St. Patrick School next year will be \$5,600. We are extremely thankful to the Father Flohe Foundation for providing \$90,000 or \$255 per student in financial assistance for the upcoming school year.

Bishop Walkowiak has increased the amount of available diocesan tuition assistance for Catholic Schools in the Diocese from \$240,000 to \$1 million annually. It's part of a three-year effort to make Catholic Schools affordable to more families. SMART Aid is a service to determine if you are eligible for financial assistance from a diocesan scholarship (grades 1-12) and/or St. Patrick Parish scholarship (grades DK-12). If you missed the deadline but would still like to apply for a St. Patrick Parish scholarship, please contact the school office.

All you need to do in order to re-enroll is to check over the Emergency Record for your child(ren) and return it with your Tuition Contract (both are included in this mailing). Please send these along with the \$50.00 registration fee for each student on or before April 21, 2017, at 4:00 p.m.

Enrolling your child(ren) as soon as possible will help us in planning for the next school year, including locking in teacher contracts. If returning students are registered after April 21 at 4:00 p.m. the registration fee is \$100.00 per student as we cannot emphasize enough the importance of turning registrations in to the office in a timely fashion.

In our pursuit of offering our students an education that will educate them for the 21st century and beyond, we will once again be charging a \$50 technology fee per family (grades DK-12). While the technology fee does not cover all our technology related expenses, it does go a long way in assisting with the cost of our IT services. This is also extremely helpful toward our implementation of a 1:1 program for all of our high school students.

Once again, we will be using SMART Tuition Management; as do all other schools in the diocese. Families are required to enroll in this program and tuition will be paid through an ACH withdrawal. Each family will be assessed an annual fee payable to SMART of up to \$40.00 per family depending on the payment schedule chosen. Please add customerservice@smarttuitionmessages.com to your contacts so future emails do not go to your spam file. Please contact business manager Mike Johnson if you believe you have a unique situation in regards to tuition payment options at 647-6505.

Finally, it is important to keep our enrollment growing, so we ask our families to share three tuition programs with prospective families. The "Shamrock Commitment" allows all incoming freshmen (as well as any students new to our high school) to have their tuition capped at the first child rate of tuition for the entire four years they attend St. Patrick High School. The second program, called "Try Us, You'll Like Us" allows for a new student in grades 1-11 to attend St. Patrick School at no cost (except for the \$50.00 registration fee and \$50.00 technology fee) for the first marking period they attend. The third program is the Welcome Scholarship which provides a one-time scholarship to students new to a Diocese of Grand Rapids school, regardless of need.

The 2017-18 tuition rates for students attending St. Patrick School is as follows:

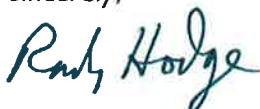
Grade	1 st Child	2 nd Child	3 rd Child	4 th Child
*9-12 Tuition Rate	\$5,050	\$4,020	\$3,040	\$1,860
DK-8 Tuition Rate	\$4,325	\$3,450	\$2,575	\$1,350
Preschool 5-day	\$2,210	\$1,800	\$1,340	\$775
Preschool 3-day	\$1,400	\$1,100	\$800	\$410
Preschool 2-day	\$925	\$725	\$525	\$325

* Please remember that returning students in grades 10-12 have their tuition rates capped at the first child rate of tuition when your child(ren) entered high school through the Shamrock Commitment program. If your high school student is locked in at a lower rate, your tuition account will reflect that amount.

**Any children in the same family, enrolled at the same time, past the 4th child will attend St. Patrick School at no charge.

We thank you for the commitment you have made to St. Patrick School. Please feel free to contact me by email at randyhodge@portlandstpats.com or you may call me at (517) 647-7551 if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,



Randy Hodge
Principal