



August 2017

Dear St. Teresa School Families,

I hope you are enjoying a wonderful summer. I also hope you are relaxed, recharged and ready to start a new school year. As principal of St. Teresa School, it is my pleasure to welcome you to the 2017-18 for another great school year. I am so delighted that you are part of our amazing learning community. I welcome and value your positive energy and dedication to excellence in education, and I look forward to working with you and your children.

All signs point to another incredible and productive school year. Our skilled and devoted faculty and staff are already planning and preparing for your child(ren). Our enthusiastic office team is registering new families, ordering needed materials and updating student files. Our hard working and conscientious custodians have spent the entire summer thoroughly cleaning the facility and painting the classrooms. Our black boards have been resurfaced and some classes have had interactive 65” tvs installed to replace SMART Boards that were not in good working order. We are also excited about our new school website. It is our desire to keep you informed of all that is taking place at school. Up-to-date and additional information will be posted on the school website.

Each year brings positive change. This includes an addition to our faculty. We are delighted to welcome Michele May, our new 5th grade homeroom teacher. Ms. May will also teach 5th and 6th grade ELA and Social Studies. Ms. May brings a solid skill set and a gentle, sensitive approach to meeting children’s learning needs.

Our much-appreciated HSA is gearing up to welcome families, provide volunteer opportunities, and offer other exciting events and programs. We are indeed a joyous and caring community with the common goals of nurturing responsible, caring students and promoting high-level learning. With that in mind, you are invited to be an active participant at St. Teresa School. Whether you are a volunteer, a member of the HSA, special event participation, or member of one of our school communities, you are

encouraged to be involved! Research on schools clearly demonstrates that parent participation in their child's school coincides with a greater likelihood of academic success for their child.

As demands and complexities of teaching children increase, it becomes more evident that we all need to work together to insure that our children reach their potential. We believe that all of us – the school, the community, and parents – must work together in an extended family environment to insure success for all our students. We believe it is everyone's responsibility to empower children with the creative, intellectual, and decision-making skills necessary for them to become academically, socially, physically, and emotionally successful and responsible. Together we will continue to make an already great school even greater, by providing students with a quality education, in an environment where each student's individual needs will be met, with Jesus at the center in all that we do. I am privileged to serve as principal of St. Teresa School and I look forward to a successful 2017-2018 school year.

Below is information that you will find helpful as the new school year begins. Enjoy the rest of your summer!

- **School begins for grades K-8 on Thursday, September 7th at 7:50 A.M. This will be a full day of school with dismissal at 2:30. Bus service and aftercare will also begin on this day.**
- **Grades K-8** will go directly into the building entering through the **red doors located in the large schoolyard. All students will go directly to the cafeteria where they will meet their teacher.** New students as well as students in grades K-1 students will be directed on where to go by the principal and/or faculty member.
- **All Pre K** students also begin school **on Thursday September 7th^h.** Information for arrival and dismissal will be sent to you in a separate letter.
- **All Pre K** students upon arrival will enter the building through the **RED DOORS located in the middle of the large school yard** where a faculty member will be there to direct students to their classroom. Parents are welcome to escort their children to their classroom. Pre K students will be dismissed through the Pre K classroom door located near Windsor Road.
- Flynn & O'Hara is our official uniform store. Styl-O-Pedic is our official shoe store. Children are expected to be in full summer or winter uniform on the first day of school. Please make sure that all boys in grades 1-8 are wearing a **black belt.** Girls' jumpers and skorts may be one inch above the knee; **they are not to be mid-thigh.** Students in K-8 **must wear** the official uniform shoe from

Styl-O-Pedic. Please do not purchase shoes from Flynn & O'Hara, they do not have our official uniform shoe.

Summer uniforms are permitted to be worn until October 29th. When wearing the summer uniform, white socks **that go above the ankle** and **white or black sneakers are permitted.**

- **Pre K For all Students** – Uniforms are not mandatory. It is suggested that the UPK students wear the St. Teresa gym uniform each day.
- **Pre K 3 Students**-Students should wear the St. Teresa gym uniform each day.
- For children who bring their own lunch and beverage from home- Lunches may be brought to school in a paper bag or a **soft lunch box**. Please make sure your **child's name and class are clearly labeled on the outside of the lunch bag/box**. When sending a beverage, please keep in mind, **no glass or flip-top cans**.
- Hot lunch may be purchased along with snacks daily by placing an order on the lunch website by the Friday before. The website will be available for you to place orders on August 15, 2017.
- Every Wednesday is “pretzel day”. Pretzels will be sold for \$1.00.
- **UPK – Lunch** and snack will be provided everyday beginning Thursday, September 7th.
- If your child is going to ride the school bus (grades K-8), he/she is expected to be on the bus every day. Bus children will only be excused from riding the bus in an emergency situation. This includes any *early dismissals*. **Only children who are on file with the Office of Pupil Transportation as being eligible to ride the school bus are permitted on the bus. Please note, once on file, your child is on file for a specific bus and is not allowed on any other bus.** The Office of Pupil Transportation determines if a child is eligible to ride the school bus. The child's grade and the distance he/she lives from the school determine eligibility.
- Please remember that when dropping your children off in the morning and when picking them up in the afternoon, **at no time are you to pull or park your car into either the big school yard or the small school yard behind the rectory.** If dropping your child off on Slosson Ave, please remember to pull your car up **past the school bus stop (drop children off closer to Windsor Road.)**

- During morning drop off, there is **no parking** on Windsor Road from in front of Presentation Hall all the way up to Slosson Ave. **This area is for drop off only.**
- Please be mindful of our neighbors and do not block their driveways during morning drop off and afternoon pickup. Also, there is no parking in Casey's lot when the "No School Parking Today" signs are out.
- On the first day of school your child/ren will receive an emergency form and an IRIS alert form. Please fill out **one form per family for each of the forms.** These forms must be returned the next day. If during the year you have any changes of address, telephone/cell numbers, or e-mail address **you must notify the office immediately in writing.** In the event that your child is ill and you cannot pick him/her up, only a person listed on your emergency form will be permitted to sign the child out.
- St. Teresa School will communicate primarily through e-mail going forward. You will be receiving a form requesting your current email address. Please make sure it is completed and returned immediately, so that you will receive all communications from the school.

Important

Thursday, September 7 – Parent Orientation – Pre K thru Grade 8 – 7:00 PM
Orientation will begin with a general meeting at 7:00 PM in the Church. Once this meeting has concluded, you will go to your child's classroom to meet with his/her teacher.

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to the school. May God bless you and your families always!

Sincerely in Christ,

Mrs. Anna Simione
Principal