



June 19, 2018

Parents and families of St. Rose Catholic School students,

As the 2017 – 2018 school year has wrapped up, I wanted to thank you all again for choosing to send your children to St. Rose Catholic School where your children can reap the rewards of a high-quality Catholic education. The idea of summer vacation in America has evolved over American history. Many modern youths take the summer vacation for granted, and as a right for students, however, it wasn't always this way. Before the Civil War, most rural schools operated on two calendars; Summer term which ran from early May through August and Winter term which ran from mid-November through March. These terms allowed children to pitch in on the spring planting and fall harvest which was the lifeblood of the rural farm. Urban schools often ran on a 48-week schedule with four quarters followed by a one week break before the beginning of the next quarter. Many new immigrants worked long hours on a year-round schedule in factories, shops, and mills and needed a safe and affordable place for their children to stay and learn English and other subjects.

As you go off to summer, I would like to leave you with a few thoughts and some dates to remember as we head into the 2018 – 2019 school year.

There have been a few changes to the school calendar in recent weeks. The most significant changes to take note of include the start of school date and the elementary school "welcome back." School will begin on Wednesday, August 22 with August 22 – 24 being minimum days with a 12:00 dismissal. Additionally, all elementary classrooms will be open from 10:00 – 11:00 AM on Friday, August 17 so students and families can come by and say hello to their teachers and take a look at their new classrooms.

I would like to extend a welcome to Julie Glunz as the newest teaching addition to the St. Rose Catholic School family. Ms. Glunz will bring her twelve years of teaching experience to the St. Rose middle school to teach Science. Her passion and dedication to teaching, her students, and her Catholic faith will significantly benefit St. Rose.

The 2018 – 2019 St. Rose Catholic School Handbook will be available for your viewing on July 1 on the school website at <http://saintrosecatholicschool.org>. While much of this handbook has rolled over from previous years, there are some new additions or revisions to past policy that I want you to be made aware of:

1. Extended Care: Hourly rates have increased, and failure to stay current on payments of these fees will result in the loss of Extended Care privileges.
2. Additional Fees: A technology fee and overdue/lost library book fee will be billed to statements.
3. BBQ and Auction: The Drive-Thru BBQ will be held in September while the Dinner Auction will be

held in March.

4. Scrip/CharityMania: CharityMania will replace the Scrip program. The Scrip program will still run; however, it will not be required.
5. Tardies: All students K – 8 will be tardy if they are not in their classroom at the 8:00 tardy bell. Elementary students will line up at 7:55 and be escorted to their classes before 8:00.
6. Clothing: All students must wear white socks. There are no longer length restrictions on the socks. Black shoes have been added to the navy blue shoes as acceptable colors.
7. School Volunteers: All volunteers will need to complete the Safe Environment Training Program: VIRTUES.
8. Dogs on Campus: Dogs are not allowed on campus except for being in owners arms or being on a leash on Pet Blessing day.
9. "Buck a Jeans" Day: Fun day of wearing jeans/spirit shirts once a month with proceeds to be donated to a charity of choice of the class which hosts Mass each month.
10. Restrooms: Only children may go in boys/girls restrooms. All adults must use staff/volunteer restroom adjacent to the staff lounge.
11. Signed Handbook agreement will be due to homeroom/classroom teacher no later than August 31.

Finally, I would like to leave you with a prayer for summer vacation and safe travels:

Lord, be our companion and protector during our journeys. Keep us from all danger, misfortune, and temptation. Thank You, Lord, for the opportunity to take a break from our daily routines and to replenish our minds, bodies, and souls so they may better serve You. Sometimes our expectations for vacation and time off are unrealistic, and we find ourselves disappointed when things do not go our way. Help us not to worry about having the perfect vacation but to relax and enjoy every moment, whatever it may bring. Let us be grateful for the joys that await us, whether they be the beauty of your creation, recreation with family or friends, or peace and solitude. Watch over us and protect us as we travel and bring us safely home again, refreshed and renewed for a new school year. You are the way, the truth, and the life, and to You, we give thanks, praise, and glory forever.

*AMEN*

