



The St. Augustine Monthly

St. Augustine School † Founded in 1857 † www.staug-md.org

A School You Can Have Faith In † June 2010

From the Principal's Desk...

As the current school year comes to a close this week, plans are underway to welcome 114 new students to our school. Our ambassador families are reaching out to the new families and social gatherings are being planned within each grade to help our newcomers quickly feel a part of our community. Most importantly, the teachers and I are working hard to ensure that the educational experience of all of our students continues to be the best it can be. In order to accomplish this, a number of additional teachers will be needed and I am very happy to announce that most of the new positions have been filled. I know there is great concern in the community over how we are going to meet the needs of our students with larger classes. One way is to have additional teachers and instructional aides to ensure that each student gets the attention that he or she needs. Another is to ensure support services are available. Our school counselor, Mrs. Sue Porembski, will be with us two days per week next year. Our resource team will be expanded with an additional full-time teacher. I am currently interviewing candidates for this position. In addition, Mrs. Mobley, who is taking a graduate class over the summer on reading remediation, will also be working part time on the resource team.

With the school population growing, I know that I need more help with the administration of the school. After giving this very careful and prayerful consideration, I have decided not to hire an assistant principal, but rather to expand the role of the team leaders to become more of a leadership team. Mrs. Claytor, Ms. Sunderland and Mrs. Madera will each take on specific administrative responsibilities to assist me in ensuring that the school is run as smoothly and efficiently as possible. Mrs. Claytor, who has been an assistant principal and holds MSDE certification in school guidance will assist me with faculty evaluation and discipline issues in grades PK-4. Miss Sunderland, who has advanced training in curriculum mapping which is a tool we use to track redundancies and gaps in instruction, will oversee this process in the school. She is also participating in intensive professional development this summer on meeting the needs of students with learning differences in private and parochial schools. She will be responsible for administration of our resource program. Mrs. Madera, who has post graduate course work on the needs of the middle school student, will be assisting me with discipline in grades 5-8. She will also oversee the standardized testing program and the implementation of our academic goals based on the testing results and data from the strategic plan survey.

Mrs. Rebaza will be working with Ms. Mackay in kindergarten full-time. She is also going to be responsible for our Before Care program. Mrs. Rebaza has worked closely with Mrs. Filar and Ms. Mackay and they are very confident that things will run very smoothly in the preschool and kindergarten next year.

Ms. Graf, who is completing her Masters in Teaching with a concentration in math and science education at Johns Hopkins, will be teaching science to our second and third grade students. Her emphasis will be on hands-on learning to create not only enthusiasm for science, but also to ensure that our young students acquire a firm understanding of important scientific concepts.

Mrs. Mobley is currently pursuing her Masters in Education with a concentration in instructional technology at the University of Maryland University College. She will continue to teach technology to grades PK-4 and will also be assisting Mrs. Claytor with teaching social studies. Mrs. Claytor will also have an instructional aide all morning.

Summer Vacation

Ms. Natalie Boffo, a fifth grade Operation Teach teacher at St. William of York, will be joining our faculty to teach Language Arts to the sixth grade as well as assisting Mrs. Arvin and Ms. Sofio with language arts. She has great enthusiasm for reading and writing and is very excited about becoming part of our team.

I know that 44 students in our seventh and eighth grades is a huge concern for parents and students alike. I believe that the plan that we have formulated effectively addresses the concerns of the students which is to not be split up and the concern of the parents that class size does not negatively impact instruction and learning. The seventh and eighth grade students will be all together for homeroom, religion, language arts, and physical education.

Religion more than any other subject has a dual focus: content and formation. Many of the attributes addressed are those which are part of the students' day to day experiences and relationships. I believe that having the whole class together for this instruction and discussion will be very beneficial.

Mrs. Madera will be teaching language arts to all the 7th and 8th grade students. She will be assisted by Mrs. Zaranski who knows the students and is well versed in the reading curriculum. She and Mrs. Madera are a great team and together they will ensure that the students' reading and writing needs are met.

The middle school students will be split for math and Spanish according to ability. I am currently interviewing candidates for the Spanish position. Mrs. McWilliams will be teaching math to grades 6, 7 and 8. We are welcoming Mrs. Andrea Hermann to our math team. Mrs. Hermann has Bachelors and Masters degrees in mathematics. She has worked as a mathematician at NSA and has taught math at the community college level and extensive tutoring to elementary and high school students. She will have her Maryland State teaching credential in middle and secondary math at the end of a year of teaching. Mrs. Hermann will be teaching algebra, math 5, 6 and 7. They will be randomly split for science, social studies, art and music. In order to best address our current students' concern that they "be with their friends" these groups will be mixed differently. Ms. Satalin will be teaching all of the middle school social studies and Mr. Miller all of the middle school science.

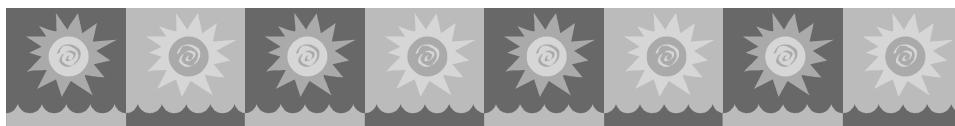
Our new art teacher is Mrs. Elizabeth Armacost. She was teaching art to grades PK-8 at the Shrine of the Sacred Heart School in Mt. Washington. Mrs. Armacost has a degree in art education and is MSDE certified to teach art K-12. I believe the children will thrive in art under her care. She is already excited about the Home and School Association's Square One Art fundraiser.

The middle school students will have their own music teacher. Ms. Bonnie Kabarra from Ascension School will be teaching middle school music. Mrs. Kabarra has a Bachelor of Science in Music Education, a Masters Equivalency in Music Studies and Maryland certification to teach Music K-12.

As you can see we have been very busy devising a plan to make the 2010-2011 school year a great success. One element to ensure a wonderful school year is a restful and relaxing summer. I hope that all of our students have time to play and be creative during the weeks ahead. I pray that your family time is peaceful and full of many fun events. I know from experience how quickly children grow up. Please take time to enjoy your children. Make memories that will last their lifetime and send them back to us happy, healthy, rested and ready for another year of learning and growth. We will be ready to welcome them with open arms and huge smiles.

~ Mrs. Patricia Schratz, Principal

SAS Summer Office Hours

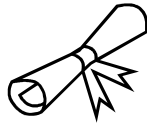


During the summer, the school office will be closed on Fridays beginning June 18 until August 13. The office will be open Monday through Thursday from 9 AM-1 PM.

Store certificates will be on sale during the school office hours.

The office will be closed the weeks of July 5 and July 19.

Congratulations, Class of 2010!



St. Augustine School is very pleased and proud to announce that the following students will graduated on Thursday, May 27 and are now headed off to high school! Please pray for their continued success and happiness in all of their future endeavors.

Davida Amponsah
Scott Beautz
Patrick Bibeau
Courtney Bittinger
Michael Bosley
JoAnne Bulla
Erin Cannon
Katherine Connolly
Luke Filar
Matthew Franchy
Isabelle Jadik
Timothy Larkin
Rebecca Lewis
Patrick McCardle
Kristel Penaso
James Peyla
William Quick
Faith Rico
Makenzie Rynn
Travis Schuman
Thomas Shoemaker
Michael Weglein
Ryan Weglein
Michael Zerhusen



A very special congratulations to the following 8th grade students who received high school scholarships. We are very proud of their special achievements.

Makenzie Rynn, *The Seton Keough Women in Science Scholarship*

Rebecca Lewis, *The St. Agnes Hospital Family Scholarship*

Moving Up Day

Moving Up Day was held today for students entering grades 2-8. Students had the opportunity to move up to their new grade and meet their new teacher. New students were also invited to attend to get a glimpse of their new surroundings and meet their new classmates. Teachers also clarified the summer reading requirements. We hope all students enjoyed "moving up"!

Last Day of School

The last day of school for students in grades 1-7 is **Friday, June 4**. Parents are invited to attend our school liturgy to celebrate the many blessings and wonderful accomplishments of the school year. Mass will begin at 9:15 a.m. Following the liturgy, awards will be distributed to students in grades 3-7. Students will then return to their classrooms to receive their progress reports and gather their belongings. Dismissal will begin at 11 a.m.

2010-11 HSA

We are very pleased to announce that all of this year's HSA Executive Committee members will be returning next year, with the exception of Mrs. Debbie Schallmo, who has served two terms as treasurer and cannot serve again. Thank you to the following parents for dedicating their time and talents to our school:

President: Deborah Goodman

Vice-President: Jim Schneck

Secretary: Janet Peyla

Treasurer: Aida Nichols

Committee Members: Christine Mour, Joseline Castanos, Rob Blackwell, Terry Hillock

100 Volunteer Hours... WOW!

A BIG THANK YOU to the following families who have volunteered an amazing **100+ hours** this school year! We can't thank you enough for all of your dedication and hard work! We couldn't do all that we do, and do it so well, without you!

Bibeau Family
Black Family
Blackwell Family
Bulla Family
Filar Family
Gretz Family
Hoffman Family
Jadik Family
Mosberg Family
Munter Family
Peyla Family
Schallmo Family
Schneck Family
Schoenbeck Family
Stanitski Family



Save the Date... Back to School Bash & Family Dinner!



On Friday, September 17 we will hold the **Back to School Bash & Family Dinner** in the hall from 4-8 PM. In addition to the all-you-can-eat family dinner, there will be a silent auction, children's games,

face painting, 50/50 raffle, and a DJ for dancing. Come and enjoy Miss Ruth's homemade cooking and tons of fun for everyone! This is a great way to get a jump-start on your volunteer hours! To volunteer, please contact Mrs. Mobley at smobley@staug-md.org. Thank you!

Save Those Boxtops

Please continue to save the "boxtops for education" over the summer. We will have another contest in the fall.

6th Annual Race for Education Raises More Than \$25,000!



St. Augustine's **6th Annual Race for Education** was a huge success, raising **\$25,839** for our school! We are very grateful to all the families who supported this important fundraiser and made the race so much fun for our students!

Congratulations to our top 3 fundraisers who each received \$50: **Zachary Hillock,**

Natalie Lybrook, and Peter Pittman. Congratulations to the **4th grade** for raising the most money! This class will receive a pizza party and extra recess!

Are You Using Goodsearch.com?

The next time you search for something on the Internet, please use **goodsearch.com** as your search engine! Powered by Yahoo, **goodsearch.com** will make a donation to our school each time it's used. You need only register St. Augustine's on your very first search. With each subsequent search, it will default to our school. This is a very easy, no-cost way to support the school!



Math Masters

Congratulations to the following students who achieved "Math Master" status in May:

Grade 3: Elise Baker, Sasha Coates, Emily Dagirmanjian, Timothy Fair, Max Grogans, Katrina Manabat, Carolina McLaughlin, Monica Mercurio, Spencer Nichols, Adam Quick, Kylie Riddle, Arielle Rivera, Julianne Schallmo, John Shinnamon, Samuel Shoemaker, Thomas Skrynecki, Lucie Vrooman, and Kristen Zaranski.

Grade 4: Zach Hillock, Danielle Brunner, Jessica Schneck, Jesse Whitehead, Dominique Buteau, Noah Bahur, Greg Peterson, Johnny Dutan, Nicky Beautz, Matthew Elias, Andrew Black, Rachel Hall, Adam Mills, John Peyla, Chloe Shoemaker, and Eddie Madera.

Grade 5: Emily Dunham and Jason Schneck.

Religious Education News

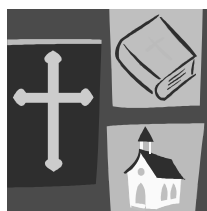
Hula over to St. Augustine's for a Summer Retreat!

Girls entering 5th grade: Wednesday, June 9 (9:30 am to 7 PM); Girls entering 6th-8th grade: Tuesday, June 8 (10 am) to Wednesday, June 9 (7 PM). The cost is \$30. To register or for more information, please call Cathy Carlin at 410-796-8150.



First Reconciliation Parent Meeting...

Do you want to begin preparing your child over the summer? You can do so by attending the parent meeting on Tuesday, June 15 from 6:30-8:30 PM in the Burke Wing. The second meeting choice is August 23.



Vacation Bible School... Save the Date!

VBS will be held July 12-16 from 9 AM-12:30 PM. Registration ends June 15. Forms are available in back of church and at

*Have a wonderful,
safe summer!*