

September 3, 2015

Dear St. Ursula Parents,

Thank you so much for helping to make the first two weeks of school such a wonderful experience for students and staff. Your patience with dismissal the first week of school is commendable. With Extended Day now in operation the dismissal is much more "normal."

We know you have been inundated with many forms and letters these first few days of school. Again, I need to thank you for your understanding and promptness in returning all of the required forms. These include the signed Handbook page which is located on page 27. If you have not done so, please return the form by Tuesday, September 8.

Regarding the St. Ursula Student-Parent Handbook, there have been a few changes to note. Any child who is dropped off after 8:10 must enter the Manns Ave. door accompanied by a parent and be signed in as tardy. Also on Dollar Days, clothes may not be dropped off if the child forgot and wore his/her uniform. Also please take a moment to reread the drop off and pick-up procedures. No one should be parking on Manns Ave. during dismissal. We are very respectful of those families who live on Manns Ave.

This year the Department of Catholic Schools is embarking on a year-long reaccreditation process. The first phase of the process involves surveying teachers, students in grades 5-12, and parents. A letter was sent home the first day from Dr. Barbara Edmondson, Superintendent of Catholic Schools. In the letter was a link to the online survey. It is very important that your voice is heard in this process. If you have completed the survey already, thank you. If you haven't the timeline for the survey extends to midnight September 11. The link again is:

<http://www.advanc-ed.org/survey/public/5775986>.

Another school specific endeavor focuses on a short and long range technology plan for St. Ursula School. The school-based technology committee is working concurrently with Mr. Joseph Oleschuk, Director of Instructional Technology for the Department of Catholic Schools. The goal is to identify the specific needs both internally regarding infrastructure as well as hardware that would benefit all students. As of today we have embarked on a new phone system which will enable communication between classrooms, the offices, as well as outside lines. Projectors and Apple TVs are being installed in those classrooms lacking those items. A

major goal for this year is the acquisition of notebook cart(s). More details will be shared as the committee proceeds.

The school community extends their sympathy and prayers to Macy Serio and her family on the death of her mother, Ann Marie Serio. Please keep Macy and her family in your thoughts and prayers.

Finally, a reminder that school is closed tomorrow, Friday, September 4th and Monday, September 7th in honor of Labor Day. Also the primary grades (PreK-4th) Back to School Night is Thursday, September 10th at 7:00.

God bless,

Debbie Glinowiecki, Principal