



IMPORTANT NEWS & IMPORTANT DATES SEPTEMBER 2024

A MESSAGE FROM STUDENT SUPPORT COORDINATOR

Dear Saint Joseph High School Families,

As we begin the new school year, I want to take a moment to introduce myself and remind you of the support available to your students at Saint Joseph High School. My name is Natalie Brock and I have the privilege of serving as the Student Support Coordinator. In this role, my primary focus is to ensure that every student at SJHS receives the support they need to succeed academically, behaviorally, and emotionally.

My background in general and special education from the University of Pittsburgh and the University of Notre Dame, along with my experience working closely with teachers, has prepared me to assist students with diverse learning needs, particularly in the Catholic school setting. At SJHS, I collaborate regularly with our dedicated team, including our school counselor, Mr. David Anater, our reading specialist from Allegheny Intermediate Unit 3, Mrs. Jamie Marullo, as well as all general education classroom teachers. Together, we work to create a supportive and enriching environment for all students. Whether it's providing individualized academic strategies, facilitating communication between teachers and students, or addressing specific learning struggles, I am here to help your child thrive.

I encourage you to reach out if you have any concerns about your student's academic progress or well-being. I am here as a resource for your student. Please feel free to contact me at nbrock@sainthjosephs.com or 724-224-5552. I look forward to working with you and your student this year and wish you all a successful and fulfilling school year.

Sincerely,

Ms. Natalie Brock '11

Student Support Coordinator

IMPORTANT DATES:

After School Supervision Program

There will be after school supervision for athletes waiting for their practices and sports buses as well as any student participating in afterschool activities that are not immediately taking place after school. **These supervisory periods are scheduled from 3:00-5:00 PM** in advance as needed by our activities/athletic calendars **Mondays through Thursdays**. **Students need to sign up in the office at the start of the week so we are better prepared with coverage and informed of their needs to be in the building after school.** Students will report to assigned classroom with a supervising teacher or administrator. Students will sign in and use this time to study, work on assignments, or read. Students will not be permitted to leave SJHS once they have signed in by 3:00 PM. SJHS is about "Protecting God's Children" and keeping them safe from wandering through the community. Any student who leaves and does not return to the building by 3:00 pm will not be under the supervision of our afterschool program and students cannot enter the building until the designated start time of their scheduled activity. Please contact our office if you have questions or concerns: 724-224-5552.

Academic WIN time and club time:

Through our Middle States objectives and goals (2019 - 2026) SJHS developed a WIN time (Whatever Is Needed) to benefit all students in academic enrichment. Academic WIN time is a 40-minute block of time scheduled every other week where students can receive skills-based remediation or enrichment based on what they need at that specified time. Through Google Classroom surveys (sent mid-week) students will select the teacher/subject area they want/need to work with during the Academic WIN times.

Students will remain with that teacher the entire WIN period of that specific week. Once a month of WIN time students will follow the same 40-minute format and participate in a club of their choice. We believe that student who are actively engaged in clubs allow them the time to build positive social relationships within a supportive environment. Our Activity Fair is scheduled on **September 9th** to provide students the opportunity to hear more about SJHS clubs and will complete a club survey later in the week.

School Picture Day: Yearbook photographers from Lifetouch will be on campus **Monday, September 9** for school pictures. All student will be photographed for the SJHS Yearbook (Head and Shoulders). Students are to consult the Student/Parent Handbook, page 53 "Dress-Up Days" (school picture days, special event) for policy. The school uniform is always welcome. Picture make-up day is **Friday, October 11**.

Student Drivers & Parking Passes (pg. #64-65 in the SJHS Handbook)

Student drivers must register vehicles. There are no fees for a parking pass. Drivers must park in the Humanities lot as the Sci/Tech lot is reserved for faculty & staff. Forms are available in the office.

Setting up a Lunch Account with AVI Food Service:

AVI uses a program called PaySchool. All students need an account set up. This does NOT mean you have to load money into the account. AVI uses this account to track the quantity of free breakfasts distributed. Once a student has a PaySchool account set up, the student will be asked to punch in a 4 digit code at the lunch counter. All students have a unique PowerSchool ID of 5 digits. The lunch code is the last 4 digits of the ID.

Here is information on how to set up your **PaySchool Account**. Create your account using your computer or tablet at: www.payschoolscentral.com. Students can also use cash at any time, but AVI needs all students to have a PaySchool Account set up.

Now You Can:

- Manage all your student's accounts and fees in one place.
- Set up auto-replenish to automatically fill lunch accounts when they're running low.
- Set up reminders and alerts.
- Review your children's purchases anytime
- Handle payments 24/7, at your convenience, on any device

If you have any issues, please contact AVI resource Greg McGranhan at gmcgranahan@avifoodsystems.com.

SAVE THESE DATES:

- September 19: Freshmen Retreat at Kearns Spirituality Center at La Roche University
- September 24- Mass with Special Loved Ones/Grandparents 7:55 AM
- September 24- All School- Back to School Picnic, Harrison Hills Park 9 AM -2:00 PM return to SJHS at end of day for transportation home
- September 25- junior class and select seniors visit Duquesne University & the University of Pittsburgh with Mr. Anater and faculty chaperones

- Sophomore Retreat TBA
- October 24- Grading Quarter #1 ends
- October 30- **Parent/ Teacher/ Student** Report Card Conferences as per Handbook page 21.

- November 12- Mass and Remembrance Service 7:55 AM
- November 14- Junior Class pre-retreat program at SJHS
- **November 17- SJHS Celebrates 110 Years, Mass at 2:00 PM with Bishop David A. Zubik (Diocese of Pittsburgh) and Larry J. Kulick (Diocese of Greensburg) at SJHS. All are invited. Students are required to attend this all school celebration in school uniform.**
- November 27- December 2, Thanksgiving Break.

Please check your Parent email account regularly.