



SAINT PAUL THE APOSTLE

CATHOLIC SCHOOL



Dear Parents/Guardians:

“Happy Belated Birthday” to everyone who is part of this wonderful community! St. Paul the Apostle School opened its doors for the first time on **September 8, 1935**. SPA was once only a vision and a dream; today the school is now an awesome 85 years old and thriving! It is without a doubt that the success of our school has always been determined by what is in the hearts and heads of the many people who work here, learn here, and partner with us each and every day.

As a general rule, social organizations do not succeed unless they focus on what they do best—perform their core mission. At St. Paul the Apostle, we take great pride in the rich history and faithfulness to our mission of developing the spiritual formation, academic proficiency and personal excellence of our students. We are particularly blessed by the many and varied gifts of the Paulist Fathers, the Daughters of Mary and Joseph, and the faculty, staff and parents who understand and accept some measure of responsibility for this uniquely faith-filled mission. It is because of everyone’s consistent dedication and commitment that our students exemplify everything that is profoundly good about Catholic education: love, understanding, happiness, and the willingness to make a difference in the world.

One of our main objectives as a community is to make every student and family feel welcomed, connected and included as a vital part of our SPA community. As the demands and complexities of educating children continue to increase, especially given our current pandemic circumstances, it becomes more and more evident that we all need to work together to ensure that our students reach their highest potential. As we continue to move forward this year, we will embrace the

many challenges of the future while we continue to cherish and acclaim the traditions of the past. May our mission of preparing our students for a life of faith, virtue and excellence continue to be blessed for many more years to come!

Peace and Blessings,

Crystal A. Pinkofsky
Principal

BACK-TO-SCHOOL NIGHT!



This is just a friendly reminder that our annual **Back-to-School Night** will be held **TONIGHT**, September 14, beginning at 7:00 p.m. We hope you will be able to join us for an evening of important information. **Fr. Gilbert Martinez** will begin our “virtual” general meeting which you can view by clicking the **YouTube link below at 7:00 p.m.** Fr. Gil’s welcome will be followed by brief presentations from our SPA School community leaders:

Monique Mamikunian – PWC President
Yvonne Skillings – Festival Chairperson
Christopher Greenspan – Foundation Chairperson
Michael Ness – School Board President

At 7:30 p.m., parents will be invited to login and meet with your child’s teachers using the Zoom links listed below. Topics to be discussed at each grade level will include “classroom” policies and procedures, curriculum highlights, homework expectations, communication procedures, Outreach Counseling services, and the special class liturgies planned this year.

Back to School Night "Virtual" General Meeting Link
https://youtu.be/ixQX8EUVD_M

Back to School Night Grade Level Zoom Links
(Password = saints)

DK - <https://sp-apostle.zoom.us/j/91843563648>
K - <https://sp-apostle.zoom.us/j/99809964936>
1st - <https://sp-apostle.zoom.us/j/92234464559>
2nd - <https://sp-apostle.zoom.us/j/99571203162>
3rd - <https://sp-apostle.zoom.us/j/191438572>
4th - <https://sp-apostle.zoom.us/j/98270507763>
5th - <https://sp-apostle.zoom.us/j/232427842>
6th - <https://sp-apostle.zoom.us/j/304021096>
7th & 8th - <https://sp-apostle.zoom.us/j/4859468911>

It is our goal that these meetings will be both productive and informative. Every family is strongly encouraged to have at least one parent in attendance at the meeting, but if you have a scheduling conflict the meetings will be recorded for your review at a later time. We hope to see you there!

MASS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT!

Every year, the faculty and students of SPA gather together to begin our school year with prayer and song during our Back-to-School Mass. Although we cannot all physically come together on campus, that tradition will continue. **This special liturgy will be held on Friday, September 18, beginning at 8:15 a.m.** We will be privileged to have some of our 8th grade students in the Courtyard with us, while all of the other grade levels will be able to join us via the St. Paul the Apostle Media on YouTube. **All students, teachers and staff are strongly encouraged to WEAR RED on Friday in honor of the Holy Spirit!**

Please note that we have had to make some changes to the liturgy dates that were posted in the Distance Learning Plan. As soon as the revised dates and plans are finalized, we will share that information with you.

OUTREACH CONCERN COUNSELING SERVICES

We are pleased to announce that for the third consecutive year, Outreach Concern Inc. has contracted with SPA to provide counseling and support services to help our students meet their potential. **Ms. Mandi Duncan** and **Ms. Eri Ashlock** will be available to work with our school community beginning today, and will remain with us through June 2021. Counseling can provide a student support and direction with their academics, develop an understanding of the behavior they demonstrate and how it may impact themselves or others, help a student control their emotions, or improve social skills. Sometimes a child's behavior can impact their ability to succeed both in and outside the classroom. This is where counseling can help both the student and their parents focus on meeting whatever needs are identified to support their success. **Students may need to see one of the Outreach Concern counselors:**

- If the student feels sad, confused, shy, angry or anxious.
- When changes in the student's environment affect their well-being.
- When a student's family circumstances change.
- When influences distract or cause a student to feel anxiety, fear or concern.
- When a student experiences a loss of a family member, friend or pet.
- When home stressors affect school performance, behavior or social life.
- When a student is consistently absent from school.
- When a student struggles academically.

Partnering with parents and teachers, the school counselor's goal, much like yours, is to support your child in identifying whatever problem or concern is keeping them from achieving success, enhancing their self-esteem, confidence and motivation. If you would like to request the services and support of our counselors, please note the following guidelines:

- Parents can go online to **www.outreachconcern.org**

- Scroll to the bottom of the page to complete the **online Consent Form**. Forms at the moment will be in English and Spanish.
- You will be asked for your first name, last name and email address, then hit submit.
- You will then receive an email with a document from "doc u sign."
- At that point you should complete the necessary information on the Consent Form and be able to submit the form.
- An email will go to the Outreach Concern office and they will update the google doc with the student's information under the tab "**Consent Forms 20-21**"

Please use the following "referral links" if you would like your child to have access to the SPA School Counselors this year.

Student Link:

<https://forms.gle/aZqLFc25qUak22Qu7>

Parent Link/ English:

<https://forms.gle/8WCWCvjKXdtw9Sdm6>

SPA FESTIVAL NEWS!



Our SPA community LOVES to come together as "family" whenever we can, and this year will not be any different! BRING ON THE FESTIVAL! The Festival Committee can't wait to celebrate with our entire SPA community on October 10, 2020, at our first ever Virtual Fest! Until then, please see our **Festival webpage** for all of the ways you can help us keep the spirit of the Festival alive this year.

Please note ALL that is currently happening now:

- We have a very tight race going in the **Patronage Grade Participation Contest**, and wonderful incentives for all of those donating.
- We also are now accepting donations for our **silent and live auctions** and casserole donations for our **Casserole "Booth"!**

Watch for our weekly Festival newsletters to keep informed with the latest information, and please visit **SPAgives.com** for all the ways you can help. Thank you!



SPA YEARBOOKS!



The SPA 2019-2020 yearbooks have finally arrived! Given the unexpected realities we are dealing with now due to the pandemic, it has truly been such a joy to look at all of the pages filled with the beautiful faces of our students, and the great photos that brought back vivid memories of the many activities and significant events we shared throughout the last school year. If you purchased a yearbook and have not yet picked it up, please know that you can do so between 8:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. from the front office. If you did not order a yearbook and would like to have one, we still have a few extras that can be purchased. Please contact Mayora Hiney at mhiney@sp-apostle.org for payment information.
