

South City Catholic Academy

A RENAISSANCE FOR CATHOLIC EDUCATION

- Change
- Challenge
- Choice
- Quality Schools
- Rooted in Faith
- Partnership
- Affordable
- Sustainable

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Archbishop in Full Support of South City Catholic Academy

Last week, parents of Our Lady of Sorrows and St. Joan of Arc schools received a letter from Archbishop Carlson expressing his full commitment to South City Catholic Academy. The archbishop shared his excitement about our emerging school and his appreciation of the efforts of our parents in moving this new venture forward.

While the news of St. James the Greater remaining a parish school was met with mixed feelings, it does not change the plans for South City Catholic Academy. The archdiocese is steadfast in its commitment to provide a quality Catholic education for the children of South City Catholic Academy and remains faithful to its pledge of providing leadership and funding for our partnership model school.

Principal Search Update

Qualified candidates for the principal position at South City Catholic Academy completed first round interviews with the following members of the Catholic Education Office staff:

Mrs. Maureen DePriest, Associate Superintendent for Elementary School Administration

Dr. Bob Oliveri, Associate Superintendent for High School Administration
Mrs. Stephanie Welling, Associate Superintendent for School Personnel

Mrs. DePriest is now working with Fr. Holway and Fr. Blake on next steps. The selection committee is working diligently to ensure the new principal is the right fit and possesses the necessary qualities and characteristics to move South City Catholic Academy forward.

Realizing that some parents would like to know who the new principal is prior to registering, the planning committee will relax the deadline for registration but continue to give priority slots to currently enrolled Our Lady of Sorrows and St. Joan of Arc families.

As soon as the principal is named, the teacher interviews will commence.

Parent Advisory Committee Update

Calling all South City Catholic Academy parents!

The Parent Advisory Committee has formed three subcommittees to focus on important decisions and planning for South City Catholic Academy. Please join us for committee break-out sessions to share your ideas and talents.

Where: **St. Joan of Arc Cafeteria**

When: **Thursday, February, 16 - 7:00-8:30 p.m.**

Enrollment Outreach Subcommittee:

This committee is responsible for the following main tasks:

- Determine tactics / frequency to engage current and prospective families
- Serve as tour guides for prospective new families and connect families with appropriate archdiocese representative to answer questions, if necessary
- Connect with principals on their plans for co-joined field trips and student leadership training

School Life Subcommittee:

This committee is responsible for the following main tasks:

- Select a school mascot
- Determine school uniforms
- Create and order school spirit wear
- Establish a school social media presence

Community Building Subcommittee:

This committee is responsible for the following main tasks:

- Facilitate a Meet and Greet with the new Principal
- Plan an Ice Cream Social
- Organize Family Masses
- Host a Back to School Bash
- Arrange a Pizza Night for “Middle Schoolers”

Mrs. DePriest is working with Henning Communications on school logo designs.

Curriculum and Programs Update

The curriculum of South City Catholic Academy will consist of the concepts, skills and values the school intends for the students to learn and the teacher to teach. Students will be educated in religion, English/ language arts, mathematics, science, social studies, fine arts (music, band), health, physical education, foreign language (language to be determined) and technology. In addition, the school will offer the services of a full-time learning consultant, Title I, and the English Tutoring Project.

While the specific grade level curriculum goals continue to be aligned to standards and benchmarks, subject level curriculum goals have been drafted. **A copy of the subject level curriculum goals have been posted to www.archstl.org/renaissance.**

Extra-curricular and after school/aftercare programs are being explored. These program include: Bellarmine Speech Team, Chess Club, Clavius Robotics Project, COCA, Girls on the Run, Mad

Science, Mission/Service Club, Springboard for Learning, Student Council and Tutoring. Mrs. DePriest will work with the principal on which programs will be chosen, which programs could be incorporated into the school day and which programs would take place after school. Mrs. DePriest is also working with United 4 Children on funding to support our aftercare program.

Instructional Materials and Technology Inventories Underway

The faculties and staffs of Our Lady of Sorrows and St. Joan of Arc schools are currently involved in the inventory process for instructional materials and technology hardware/software. Once completed in early March, the inventories will be reviewed for quality and alignment with academic and program needs. South City Catholic Academy also intends to purchase additional instructional materials and technology as necessary.

Family Handbook

An initial draft of the South City Catholic Academy Family Handbook can be found at www.archstl.org/renaissance. The handbook is a work in progress and will be added to as further decisions are made. Parents and guardians will be informed each time the handbook is updated with new information.

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5821 Pernod Avenue
St. Louis, MO 63139-1906
Phone: 314-792-7308