

2205 Binney St. Omaha, NE 68110 402.455.5858 Mike Jensen, Principal www.shsomaha.org

# Sacred Heart School 2024 Summer Information Letter

July 15, 2024

Dear Sacred Heart School Families,

We are so excited to welcome back all of our families and students for the 2024-2025 school year! This year is packed with lots of exciting opportunities as well as several changes that are taking place this year. The biggest change that parents will hopefully see when they drop off their children in August is that our new playground is currently under construction!!!! We are planning for a grand opening celebration to take place on August 21st around 11:00 am and would love for all of our families, alumni, and friends to join us if they are able.

# **Staffing Changes:**

The teacher shortage in our country continues to be a difficult hardship for schools everywhere. Ms. Gulizia and I are close to having a fully staffed school, however, we still ask for your prayers as we work to secure great educators for our students. Showing kindness and support to our teachers is the number one way that we as a community can ensure that we can keep the great teachers we have at Sacred Heart School. I always tell our new hires that our parents are so supportive and amazing to work with, so I expect we will keep that characteristic of our school moving forward.

One major change that is happening at Sacred Heart School this year is that Mr. Rallis informed me that he will be moving away from Omaha to the Kansas City area. As we all know, Mr. Rallis is an unbelievable educator and a huge part of the success and culture of our school. I have asked Mr. Rallis to continue to stay on as one of our Middle School teachers, which he has generously agreed to do from an online format. We hired a new middle school para, McKinley Jackson, who will operate the physical classroom while Mr. Rallis teaches online from the screen in the room. Mr. Rallis will return to Sacred Heart twice a month for in-person instruction as well.

In addition to this change, we would also like to welcome the following staff members to our middle school team:

Ms. Sylvia Dierking - Language Arts Mrs. Lara Turco - Religion/STREAM Mr. Clint Little - Math

Returning staff assignments are listed below:

Pre-K - Ms. Tuttle	3rd Grade - Ms. Soby	Pre-K Para - Mrs. Destiny Graham
Kinder - Mrs. Stearman	<b>4th Grade -</b> Mrs. Morgan	K & 1st Para - Ms. Mitchell
<b>1st Grade -</b> Mrs. Callahan	5th Grade - Mrs. Houston	2nd & 3rd Para - Mr. Adrian Graham
2nd Grade - Ms. Plumb	Library/Media - Ms. Johnson	



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This year we will also have some changes to our student support services. Mrs. Craig (counselor) will be shared between all 3 CUES schools. Mr. Jamal, therapist (formally with Catholic Charities) will be at Sacred Heart Full-Time as a CUES employee to work with our students.

There was a great deal of communication sent out last school year informing parents of a big change to our school calendar. Sacred Heart and CUES Schools will dismiss every Wednesday at 1:30 pm. I do know that Hope Center will pick up at 1:30 pm so I would advise parents to reach out to Hope Center if looking for an afterschool program.

# **Infinite Campus**

2023-2024 school year tuition must be paid in full by August 1st, 2024. After August 1st, students on the waitlist will be enrolled into Sacred Heart School. Moving forward, it will be very important for all families to become familiar with the usage of Infinite Campus. This year, Sacred Heart School is planning for all families to pay tuition each and every month. Parents will receive past-due tuition statements if a monthly payment has not been made. I always try to work with parents in every way that I can, however, our summer must be spent preparing for the next school year and not following up with past-due tuition. Please plan accordingly for tuition to be a monthly expense this upcoming school year.

Parents will be asked to begin completing forms and information through Infinite Campus this year as Sacred Heart School will be moving toward a paperless format. It is imperative that parents read their emails in a timely manner and that the school has the correct email on file.

### **Uniforms/Dress Code**

This is the last year students will be allowed to wear Sacred Heart Hoodies to school. Hoodies will no longer be sold. Students will only be allowed to wear the new Sacred Heart Quarter zips beginning in the 2025-2026 school year. Also, dress code strikes will be issued this year for students who are out of uniform. Dress code strikes will result in the loss of school-sponsored Civvies Days or activities. Khaki pants are not part of the Sacred Heart Dress Code. Students will remove any item at a teacher's request that does not correspond to our dress code. Students must have uniform polo shirts on under sweatshirts at all times. The online school store is open to purchase quarter zips at the link below. Reminder: Fake fingernails are not allowed.

https://sacredheartschoolspiritwear.itemorder.com/shop/home/

### **Back to School Day**

This year, Sacred Heart School will not be hosting a traditional Back-to-School night. Instead, this event will take place the morning of the first day of school on August 12th, 2024. Parents are welcome to come into the building and see their child's classroom, visit with teachers, and speak with neighborhood partners.



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# **School Supply List**

Please try and stick as closely as possible to the school supply list provided. Many school supplies end up being shared, so there is no guarantee that your child will use the exact pencils and crayons that they bring. This is a common practice used by schools across the country so please try and stick with basic name-brand items. **Please Note: Students need to bring a cheap set of headphones to use with their Chromebooks/iPads.** <u>No Wireless headphones are allowed</u>. **Students can also bring a clear transparent water bottle.** The water bottle must be less than **24 oz, with their name marked on it.** There may be an opportunity for water bottles to be purchased from the school office as well.

Ms. Gulizia and I are looking forward to seeing you all again soon! Please reach out to the school office if you have any questions.

All paperwork must be completed and returned by the First Day of School.

# Continue to have a great Summer Break!

Mr Mike Jensen Sacred Heart School Principal Ms. Chelsi Gulizia Sacred Heart School Assistant Principal