

August 5, 2021

SAINT BERNADETTE SCHOOL

School
Website

Parish
Website

Small school. **BIG** heart.



Casey House, Romero House, Theresa House and Kolbe House shields at Catholic Central HS, MI

Dear Parents and Guardians,

First of all, I listed a confusing and incorrect date on last night's newsletter. The correct date for the Meet the Teacher event is Monday, August 23.

This is the second of several back-to-school newsletters. Today's focuses on our new House System and what it means for your student.

A House System is a way of grouping students across grade levels in a school to form a new community. If you've seen the Harry Potter movies or read the books, the names Griffindor, Hufflepuff, Ravenclaw, and Slytherin will ring a bell. In any house system, new students are added to the houses each year, but once assigned a house, a student is associated with it until graduation.

At St. Bernadette, students will be assigned to one of four houses: Durbin House, Nevin House, Stievenard House, and Ventura House. These are important names in the founding and development of St. Bernadette Parish and School. Teachers have been assigned as Heads of House with other teachers on their staff. Each house will have students in grades K-8, and students in the same family will be assigned to the same house. There are 47-50 students in each house.

House Meetings are being planned as part of the school calendar. During house meetings, point recognition (from our new PBIS effort) will occur and houses will compete for points for end-of-year recognition. We are also planning to use some house meetings for inter-grade mentoring, service projects, and reinforcing social-emotional skills through games and competitions. Eventually house groups may sit together at Mass or assemblies, interact with our preschool students, or have special competitions at the end of the year.

We may still use homerooms for some competitions and fund-raisers, but a house



system allows us to expand the units of community, improving student engagement and adding another layer of belonging.

Right now, the Heads of House are researching their House name for origin stories, inspirational characteristics, elements for their shield, colors for their house, and other identifying aspects of their community. We are starting from scratch and will be building on to the system throughout the year.

We will "sort" the students into houses during the first week of school, and have a brief house meeting on Friday, August 27. We'll be encouraging student leadership, and cultivating new friendships. Wish us well. We are excited!

Please remember to complete the short [Vaccine Survey](#).

Enjoy your evening,
Mrs. Ingram

P.S. The shields below are for the houses at Marymount, a school in Rome.
P.P.S. Next up: PBIS as a force for good and a catalyst for change.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

LOOKING AHEAD...

- **Tues. August 10: Preschool Open House 7 p.m., cafe**
- **Sat. August 14: Mini Festival at St. B.**
- **Mon. August 23: Meet the Teacher for K-8 (evening event)**
- **Weds. August 25: First day of school for K-8 (half day for kindergarten)**
- **Mon. August 30: First day for four-year-olds and PreK**
- **Tues. August 31: First day for three-year-olds**
- **Mon. September 6: Labor Day (no classes)**

All Volunteers and Staff must register with SafeParish.

The Archdiocese is now using SafeParish exclusively for safe environment compliance as of July 9. Even if you have a Virtus account, you must open an account with SafeParish. Virtus accounts are no longer being used. Instructions for setting up your SafeParish account are [HERE](#). New to volunteering? You start by opening a SafeParish account, get the needed on-line training, and learn about any required background checks. Click on the link to get started!



PARENT NEEDED FOR OUR NEW EFFORT!

PBIS stands for Positive Behavioral Interventions and Support, and it is a different way to look at how we teach behaviors to all students and help those who struggle behaviorally. PBIS is being used school-wide next year, in addition to being applied to specific situations. We need at least one parent to sit on our PBIS committee to offer suggestions, share your point of view, and help us launch this

new initiative holistically. The time commitment is currently for one meeting per month and the meetings will typically occur after school. Interested? Email [Mrs. Ingram](mailto:Mrs.Ingram)

**ST. BERNADETTE SCHOOL
CALENDAR
2021 – 2022**

2021

August	5	Kindergarten Meet and Greet 6:30-8:00 on playground
	19-20	Teacher In-Service
	23	Meet the Teacher Night 5-8:00p.m.
	25	Classes begin-Kindergartners will dismiss at 11:00a.m.
September	6	Labor Day (NO CLASSES)
	17	Picture Day
	27	Teacher In-Service (NO CLASSES)
October	29	Teacher Retreat (NO CLASSES)
November	1	All Saints Day (NO CLASSES)
	4	Picture Retake Day (10:00 - 12:30p.m.)
	19	End of 1 st . Trimester
	24-27	Thanksgiving Holiday (NO CLASSES)
December	21	Last Day of Classes before Christmas Break

2022

January	3	Professional Development (NO CLASSES)
	4	Classes Resume
	17	Martin Luther King Day (NO CLASSES)
	30	Open House 12p.m.-2p.m.
February	18	Accreditation Meetings (NO CLASSES)
	21	President's Day (NO CLASSES)
March	4	End of 2 nd . Trimester
	18	Teacher In-Service (NO CLASSES)
	25	Spring Pictures
April	15	Good Friday - Easter Break begins (NO CLASSES)
	25	Classes Resume
May	6	Walk-a-Thon
	12	Field Day
	13	Teacher In-Service (NO CLASSES)
	27	Eighth Grade Graduation
	30	Memorial Day (NO CLASSES)
June	2	Last Day of Classes (K thru 7)
	3	Professional Development



WELCOME, Mrs. Carleski!

Amanda Carleski is our new **Preschool Director**. She has a Bachelor's degree in Communications and a Masters Degree in Public Administration. She also has a lot of experience in early childhood education, preschool staff management, and most recently worked for Jobs and Family Services. Mrs. Carleski is anxious to work with younger children again and will be teaching our Pre-Kindergarten students. She will also use her leadership background and knowledge of preschool certification programs to take our program to a new level!

WELCOME, Mrs. Sharp!

Jennifer Sharp will serve as one of our preschool aides. Parent to Riley Sharp (7th grade), Mrs. Sharp has worked at St. Bernadette as a substitute teacher for the past few years. We look forward to having her officially on our staff!

Quick Links

[Newsletters/Handouts](#)
[Parent/Student Handbook](#)
[Parish Website](#)

[Gradelink](#)
[Order FACTS Login](#)
[Remind Sign-up](#)

PTO

Virtues in Practice (at home materials -
Year I, Year of Faith)

SafeParish instructions

Kroger Rewards

Schoolbelles (code S1952)

Box Tops Bonus App

Mind-Peace (for mental health providers,
click on Search for Providers)

1n5 Foundation (great mental health
information)

