

the weekly.

St. Ailbe Catholic School

ISSUE 25, 03/05/21

Let's take a minute to think about everything we have accomplished over the past year. We started with e-learning almost exactly a year ago- it was March 13. In this time, we have gone 1:1 with devices, completed switched our curriculum to be accessible over a computer, revamped instruction to be done virtually, created a safe space within the classroom to again allow in person instruction, and have seen growth from our students across grade levels, even getting to surpass the growth that would be expected in a normal year- and this year has clearly been anything but.

Looking further back, we have implemented SEL supports across grades, making Restorative Justice the basis of our behavior management, allowing students to learn from their mistakes instead of being punished for them. We have included specials that were asked for by students and would help them grow as a person. We have fully aligned our curriculum vertically so students each year will get more to push them further. We have made improvements within (and on top of) the building to ensure the safety for years to come. We have created a PTO and continued Coffee with the Principal as long as we could in person. The community built and the community that has lasted is something that I have never experienced in a school before.

It is with all this in mind, that I want to inform you that at the end of the school year, I will be stepping down as principal. These past five years have been nothing less than a privilege. I leave knowing that the school is in a solid place to take on a new administration and that the relationships that I have made will not end. I will continue to hold all of you in prayer, and honestly, I will probably keep checking on many of you. As the process for finding a new principal will begin soon, know that I am working to ensure a smooth transition and helping in whatever way I can. I am so optimistic about the future of St. Ailbe and will share more information when available. God bless!

DATES TO REMEMBER

March 16 End of Trimester 2/ Report Cards come home the following week
March 22 Transition to IN PERSON (if chosen- survey to be sent early March)
April 1-7 **EASTER BREAK**

*Remember to read over the TRAVEL QUARANTINE REQUIREMENTS below!
We're all making sacrifices to make sure everyone can stay healthy!*

excellence is intentional.

Women's History Month

Any students who would like to wear a PURPLE or Women's History Related shirt on Thursdays are encouraged to celebrate with our school as we honor all the important women in our history who have helped make our world a better place!

5 Essentials/ 3Cs

We are currently only at 8%. THANK YOU to the parents who have filled it out already. If you have not, and especially in light of my announcement, this data will be used in figuring out how to move forward. Here is the link to take the 5 Essentials/3Cs.

2021 Archdiocese of Chicago Parent Survey

Link to survey: <http://survey.5-essentials.org/archchicago/survey/parent/>

We use this information to help us plan out goals for the following year. Obviously, this year has been... different to say the least, but we have valued your feedback for the set up of our school year and have been proud of the consistency of our program! This will be completely anonymous so no direct answers can be made, but as always, if you have any questions or feedback or ideas or concerns, we want to be able to address them directly and immediately! Please reach out!

relationships come first.

REGISTRATION

[You can register HERE.](#) Remember the registration fee will not be added to your FACTS account until this has been completed. Please inform the office when it is so we can move forward with the registration processing.

We most likely will need to cap classes next year based on social distancing requirements.

That means that classrooms will be capped at a capacity limit, which will be between 15-20 students, depending upon the classroom. **We fully anticipate filling classes and having waitlists for grades.** The earlier you register, the better chance of guaranteeing your seat.

Currently registered:

ECC	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
6	5	9	7	9	5	9	13	10	9

We are now registering families for \$175 through April 11!

Save \$150! Don't miss out- get your seat today!

Remember- waitlists will happen this year!

REFERRAL INCENTIVE

If you are a current family, there are benefits to letting others know the great things going on here! If you refer one family and they register and stay the school year, your fundraising requirement (\$300) is waived! If you refer two families, your last month's tuition is waived. If you refer three, your last two months' tuition is waived. If you refer four, your last three months' tuition is waived, and so on. Your students could attend for free if you get more students to register and attend!

EXTENDED CARE

Extended Care takes a little more planning now with the spacing restrictions and wanting to keep cohorts separated. Starting for the week of Feb. 8, **[ALL FAMILIES NEEDING EXTENDED CARE MUST SIGN UP HERE BY THE WEDNESDAY THE WEEK PRIOR TO ATTENDING.](#)** You can always access the sign up through our school website, www.stailbeschool.org, click on MAIN OFFICE, then click on EXTENDED DAY SIGN UP. Any families who sign up later or do not sign up but use the services, you will be charged \$15 for that week in addition to the cost of extended care services..

IN SCHOOL STUDENTS

If your child is going to miss a day, he/she will make it up when he/she returns instead of jumping onto virtual learning. An example of an acceptable reason for a single day absence would be a dentist appointment. At this point, most of the classrooms have had a significant change in the instruction method and the switch between the two is not as seamless as it was when everyone was learning virtually. The only time a switch will be made is if the child is going to be quarantined or need to stay out for an extended period due to illness that is communicated to the school. Remember that if your child is experiencing any symptoms, please keep him/her home to monitor for a 24 hour period. If the symptoms happen at school, he/she would be out at least one more full day to ensure that 24 hour period is met.

FRIDAY INDEPENDENT STUDY

Similar to what we've started throughout the month of January, we are going to continue with the independent study time from 1:00-3:00 in grades 1-8. This time is used for collaboration by our teachers and has been successful in getting goal setting and planning for students moving forward. That time is going to be done in school as well, with students split by cohorts, work assigned by teachers, and supervision by aides for those cohorts. **[If you would like to pick your student up at 1:00 on Fridays to complete the work at home, there will not be any "ding" to their attendance. THIS IS NOT NEEDED AND NOT REQUIRED- the students will have work to complete and the supervision to do so.](#)** PK students and K students are set up differently, with nap time (PK) and center time work for the students. As a treat, not on a regular basis, classes may be rewarded with a movie day during that time.

UPDATED TRAVEL QUARANTINE REQUIREMENTS

This year is different. In order for our school to be able to remain open, we need families to make safe decisions for everyone within the school. This year shows how interconnected we all are and why we need to make decisions for the consideration of all. **The Archdiocese of Chicago has just updated their travel policy in regards to in person students/staff since last week.**

- Quarantine periods for all domestic travel (travel out of Illinois) is **now 10 days**.
- Quarantines for international travel quarantine remain 14 days.
- Quarantines for COVID-19 exposure cases also remain 14-days (based upon the recommendation of all departments of public health in those jurisdictions in which the archdiocese operates and our own medical advisors).

As the cold and flu season approaches, please remember that students will be sent home with any fever and/or exhibiting symptoms on the list that was sent out. If the student remains fever free for 24 hours without any fever reducing medication in addition to a reduction of symptoms by at least

75%. If the symptoms have not subsided or the fever is still present, the student will need a negative COVID test and remain out for 14 days from the onset of symptoms, positive COVID test and remain out for 10 days, or a definitive doctor's note with alternative diagnosis and stating it is not COVID. We do this for the safety of everyone at school.

catalyst for change.

NOMINATE A STUDENT OF THE WEEK

The idea of making a community change begins with just one person choosing "right". Our St. Ailbe students are a force in creating an amazing wave of change, and we are going to recognize this weekly. We are going to start highlighting a student who has done amazing things by living out our motto, **I AM THIRD**, both within and outside of school. ***If you have any nominations for a student who has lived out I AM THIRD for his fellow students, neighbors, or community, please let us know so we can share that out!*** Nomination forms are available at stailbeschool.org under the Main Office tab or at this link <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfkFJnTUo6FWRws2SOtNR-fK9eypBiYmBgm6o9iVrrBUDmMnQ/viewform>.