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# THE KNIGHTLY NEWS



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## St. Ambrose School

3827 Woodburn Road

www.stambroseschool.org: (703)698-7171

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September 2, 2020

### Message from the Principal

We completed our first week back and our students have done a great job. I am really impressed at how our students are following procedures related to wearing their masks, navigating the hallways, using the sanitizing stations properly and really adjusting to the new normal of this pandemic. For our E-Learners, I wanted to thank them all for working through the “first week” technical glitches as we all really start to find our groove for our online instruction. Our teachers are working very hard to master teaching BOTH in-person students and online students at the same time. It is quite the difficult task to manage two different groups of students as well as managing the various intricacies of Schoology, Google Meets, online textbooks and other resources simultaneously. I am confident that it will just get better and better each week as everyone adjusts to the new routines!

I want to thank all parents for your patience and flexibility as we adjust to the challenges that this Pandemic brings to our school routines.

Yours in Christ,

Maria Teresa Tejada

Principal

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**Staff announcements:** Please join me in welcoming our new Advanced Math teacher, Christian Harar. Mr. Harar brings to our school many gifts and talents. He holds a bachelors in Statistics and Economics. In addition, Mr. Burkhardt will be co-teaching our Advanced Math program with Mr. Harar. Mr. Burkhardt will be joining our class via online.

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## Upcoming Events

### September 9

#### Back to School Night

We are scheduled to have our Back to School Night on September 9, 2020, starting at 6:00 pm. Each homeroom teacher will schedule a 30-minute session via Google Meets. K-3 will start at 6:00 PM. Grades 4-5 at 6:30 PM. MS (6-8) starts at 7:00 PM. Homeroom teachers will be sending the details home on Monday September 7, 2020.

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## Important Announcement

The UVC lighting has not arrived. We are expecting it soon. Once I have a confirmation of the date. I will inform all parents.

## School Announcements:

**Scantron:** Our Middle School was not able to take the Scantron testing on Monday and Tuesday. The Office of Catholic Schools was having some technical difficulties. These difficulties have been resolved and our students started taking Scantron today.

**Schoology:** During the next two weeks Mr. Kleb will be training our students on how to use Schoology. In addition, all homeroom teachers will be doing some Schoology activities with their students. We will also be sending home some videos for parents to learn how Schoology works.

**11:30 Dismissal:** This Friday we will be having an 11:30 dismissal. Please remember that:

1. K-2 will be dismissed at **11:10-11:20. Kindergarten will use the upper parking lot (Area I). First and second will use the lower parking lot (Area II).**
2. 3-5 will be dismissed at **11:20-11:30. Third grade will be in the upper parking lot (Area I). Fourth and fifth will use the lower parking lot (Area II).**
3. 6-8 will be dismissed at **11:30. Six grade will be in the upper lot (Area I). Seventh and eighth grade will use to lower lot (Area II).**

## More Important News

**Online Auction:** Please check our online auction, it has been extended **until September 20<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 pm.** There are many great things for you to bid on. If you would like to see please go to: <https://bit.ly/StAmbroseGalaOnline2020> (sign up required).

Highlights include:

- Dinner for 2 at the Inn at Little Washington
- Baseball autographed by Max Scherzer
- Something special for her – a stay at the Ritz Carlton in Tysons and a gift card to Tiffany's
- Fun baskets donated by each class – Lego, golf, fire pit, and many more!
- Plus many more baskets and event tickets...

**Fund-a-**

**Need:** <https://app.99pledges.com/fund/stambrosecatholicschool>



## In the Community

### Online Auction

Please check our online auction. It has been extended. There are many great things for you to bid on.

Our auction items will be displayed during dismissal on September 8 and September 15 (if rains will be September 9 and 15).

### Fund-a-Need

**Please consider making a general donation to support our school.**

### Virtus Training

St. Ambrose Parish Hall will be hosting "Virtus" training on Thursday September 10 from 6:00 pm-10:00 pm. Protecting God's Children for Adults is training conducted by VIRTUS certified facilitators on the prevention of child sexual abuse. This is required to work or volunteer with children in the Diocese of Arlington. Space is limited and advance registration is required.

Register online at:

[www.virtusonline.org](http://www.virtusonline.org) or contact Nicole Filipowski at [nfilipowski@stambroseva.org](mailto:nfilipowski@stambroseva.org) (703)280-1122 or the Diocese of Arlington Office of Child Protection at (703)841-3847.

Please consider making a donation to support the school's needs and expenses related to COVID-19 this year.

**Volunteers for recess:** We need volunteers to monitor our recess. If you would like to help, please make sure you are cleared first by Mrs. Konczal as all volunteers must be "Virtus" trained before they can help. Please see the link below to sign up.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080E4BA8AD22A31-recess>

### **Message from our PTO:**

Greetings fellow parents! We, Michele Robbins and Eileen Bliss, are your new PTO President and Vice-President. We are so looking forward to partnering with all of you and you'll see more on the PTO's vision for the year during Back to School Night. In the meantime, we'd like to call on all of you to consider how you can contribute your time and talents to support St. Ambrose and your children. We have many ways to volunteer, but our immediate need is for room parents, who will take on a more integral role in communication and outreach since current health guidelines place more emphasis on each individual classroom as a primary unit. The general duties of a room parent are class social events; teacher support like faculty snacks and gifts; being a communication conduit; and supporting broader PTO planning.

Our oldest children are now in 7th grade and we got our start as Kindergarten room parents. We learned how to navigate school and parenthood together and our families remain the closest friends. Over the years we've used serving St. Ambrose as a way to build our support network and bonds. We'd like you to join us on our journey this year and build lifelong friendships while supporting our school. Please reach out to us to express your interest or ask questions: Michele Robbins (703-431-3844; [mrobbins79@yahoo.com](mailto:mrobbins79@yahoo.com)) and Eileen Bliss (202-288-0813; [eipmcc@gmail.com](mailto:eipmcc@gmail.com))

### **Message from Mrs. Konczal:**

Going home in today's Wednesday folder is the information needed for parents to access PowerSchool's Parent Portal to see your children's current grades and follow their progress. If you are new to St. Ambrose you will need to create your account first. You can then link all children to one account.

### **Message from the Nurse:**

#### **Flu Shots:**

It's that time of year that the cold and flu season is fast approaching. Please make sure that you remind your children to wash or sanitize their hands frequently. Clean hands help slow the spread of viruses and bacteria.

If you wish to get a flu shot this year, it's a good time to call your pediatrician to set up a shot appointment or see if they are having flu shot clinics. You can also go to your local pharmacy such as Walgreens or CVS. Walgreens is providing flu shots for children 4 years of age and older. No appointment is necessary. CVS has two options, if the CVS has a Minute Clinic, you can make an appointment and they provide flu shots for children 2 years of age and older. If your child is 12 years of age or older you can go to the pharmacy

without an appointment and receive a flu shot. Most insurance is accepted at both pharmacies, but if you have any questions please call prior to going.

**Daily Health Form:**

Thank you to everyone that has been filling out the morning Health Assessment. It is a valuable tool to keep our school open and everyone safe and healthy. As a reminder, the Google form will be sent out via email each morning at 5:30 am. Check your junk mail if it is not in your inbox. You might have to mark it as safe. Please make sure you fill one out for each student attending. If one of your children has a fever, all of your children need to remain home until they can each be cleared by a physician, and documentation is provided to the school. A fever is considered anything above 100 degrees F. If you have any questions about this please let me know.

Have a great week. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions.