
THE KNIGHTLY NEWS



St. Ambrose School

3827 Woodburn Road

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September 9, 2020

Message from the Principal

Dear Parents,

I am very excited that we are almost done with another successful week. Now our students are starting to feel very comfortable with the new COVID-19 guidelines. A big thank you goes to our faculty and staff, as they have been working non-stop to find ways to enhance their instruction and fully utilize all of the online resources available to help our E-learning students.

I am confident that each week it will get easier to navigate for both our students, faculty, and staff. I also want to thank our students who have been following our new policies about wearing their mask and social distancing.

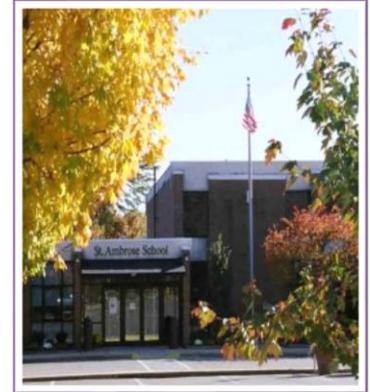
I am very happy that we continue to move forward, and we are very grateful for your support, patience and flexibility. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions.

Yours in Christ,

Maria Teresa Tejada

Principal

Staff announcements: Please join me in welcoming our new Music teacher, Andrei Pidkivka. Dr. Pidkivka brings to our school many gifts and talents. Dr. Pidkivka holds a Doctorate in Music Arts from Michigan State University. In addition, Dr. Pidkivka has been teaching for almost 23 years both in Catholic and private schools.



Upcoming Events

September 9

Back to School Night

We are scheduled to have our Back to School Night tonight, starting at 6:00 pm. **K-3** will start at 6:00 PM. Grades **4-5** at 6:30 PM. **MS (6-8)** starts at 7:00 PM.

Our Resource Director, Mrs. LaBarge will hold a Google Meet from 6-7. Please stop by if you would like to meet her. Her Google Meet link is: [Back to School Night Resource Session](#)

Yesterday you should have received a video from me welcoming all parents to our Back-to School-Night. Please find the link below:

<https://screencast-o-matic.com/watch/cYQ1DmHaom>

Important Announcement

We have started to install the UV-C lighting.

School Announcements:

UV-C Lights: We have now received our 8 UV-C lights and have started to install them in the HVAC systems. On Tuesday we installed the first unit for the areas of the PreK3, kitchen, and teacher's room and gym hallway. We also made the first, of two, instillations for the COVID Isolation room, Library and hallway. Wednesday we hope to instill the PreK4 room, the second unit for the COVID Isolation room and the 7th and 8th grade rooms and that portion of the main hallway.

We will have to hire an electrician to install power for the three units serving Kindergarten, 1st, 2nd, 4th and 6th grades. We will then use the portable UV-C unit for the Gym (3rd and 5th grades) and for other non-instructional areas of the school.

It is important to note that we ordered these units way back in early July and it took 3 months to receive them. It is estimated that less than 5 percent of the schools use UV-C technology. UV-C (ultraviolet – C band light) is a germicidal – i.e., it deactivates the DNA of virus, bacteria and other pathogens and thus destroys their ability to multiply and cause disease.

Scantron: Our lower school started Scantron testing today and it will continue until next week. Please make sure that your child has a good night's sleep and a good breakfast before coming to school.

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.

Picture Day: We will be having our Picture Day on September 15 and 16. Please send your child in full uniform.

New Facebook and Instagram Page: Please like us in our new pages:

<https://www.facebook.com/St-Ambrose-Catholic-School-117347330085000/>

<https://www.instagram.com/stambrosecatholicschool/?hl=en>

Early Dismissal: On Wednesday *September 16, we will be having a 2:10 dismissal day.* Please remember:

1. ***K-2 will be dismissed at 1:50-2:00.*** Kindergarten will use the upper parking lot. First and second will use the lower parking lot.
2. ***3-5 will be dismissed at 2:00-2:10.*** Third grade will be in the upper parking lot. Fourth and fifth will use the lower parking lot.
3. ***6-8 will be dismissed at 2:10.*** Sixth grade will be in the upper lot. Seventh and eighth grade will use to lower lot.

More Important News

Online Auction: Please check our online auction, it has been extended *until September 20th 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>

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:

Connect over a Cocktail!

While we cannot gather in person, that does not mean we can’t get together. Please join St. Ambrose school parents for a (virtual) happy hour.

Grab a glass of your favorite beverage and log in! *8 PM Friday, September 11*

[Join with Google Meet](#)

meet.google.com/ewk-tyhr-kpn

A cocktail suggestion (should you need one):

Bee’s Knees Honey Cocktail Recipe (courtesy of Southern Living)

| INGREDIENTS | DIRECTIONS |
|--|--|
| 2 oz. gin 2 tablespoons honey 2 tablespoons fresh lime juice | Combine all ingredients in a cocktail stirrer filled with ice. Shake until chilled. Strain into glass. |

Did you know St. Ambrose is the patron saint of beekeepers? Legend has it that when Ambrose was an infant, a swarm of bees settled in his mouth, said to be a sign he would become a great orator.

Message from the Nurse:

Return to School After Not Feeling Well.

With the cold and flu season here, we are going to start seeing students come down with runny noses, fevers, headache, sore throats and more. This is a reminder of what steps should be taken should your student have any cold or flu symptoms, or not be at their normal baseline.

Per our handbook this is the protocol for when to stay home:

Any student, faculty or staff member with *a fever (100), cough, or another symptom should remain home until cleared by a physician and symptom free for 24 hours.* All siblings must also remain home until they can be cleared by a physician to return, regardless if they have any symptoms or not. If you think you or your child may have been exposed to COVID-19, contact your healthcare provider. People with COVID-19 have had a wide range of symptoms reported – ranging from mild symptoms to severe illness. Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus. People with these symptoms may have COVID-19:

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

Children with fevers, contagious, or infectious diseases will be excluded from school while in that condition, per Virginia Department of Health regulations. Once the student is confirmed to be free of communicable illness by a healthcare provider and is fever free/symptom free for 24 hours without taking fever-reducing medications, the student may return to school with a written release from their physician. The physician note must be received prior to bringing your child back to school.

If you have any questions on this please do not hesitate to contact me.

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 530 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.

Below you will find the link to the daily health form. It is the same link every day.

<https://forms.gle/jrxYJaNyUWML6eeA6>