



CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

From the Office of the Principal

www.catholichigh.org

June/July 2016

WELCOME: To the parents of the young men who will be entering Catholic High as freshmen and eighth graders (our classes of 2020 and 2021). We look forward to working with you and your son.

CATHOLIC HIGH NEWSLETTER: This monthly newsletter is our primary means of communication with parents and is only available online through the Catholic High website (www.catholichigh.org). I encourage parents to share the newsletter with their sons. *Educational Mission and Ministry* (see next item) states "we give our personal attention to developing a spirit of openness and cordial relations with students and parents."

Each month every family will receive an email notifying you that the newsletter is available online. Important information is contained in the monthly newsletter and I urge you to read it carefully.

EDUCATIONAL MISSION AND MINISTRY: In 1985, the Brothers of the Sacred Heart of the New Orleans Province published *Educational Mission and Ministry*. This document, which is an articulation of our educational philosophy, was written so we could share our rich tradition with those with whom we are partners in our educational endeavor. *Educational Mission and Ministry* guides the operation of Catholic High. According to this document, "Education according to the tradition of the Brothers of the Sacred Heart is holistic education rooted in religious values, structured through friendly discipline, nurtured by personal attention and committed to academic excellence."

As parents, you are the primary educators of your children. We thank you for giving us the opportunity to work along with you in educating your son. Together we can achieve the mission of Catholic High: "To teach Gospel values in an environment of academic excellence according to Catholic tradition and the spirit of the Brothers of the Sacred Heart."

STUDENTS NOT RETURNING: If your son will not be returning to Catholic High for the 2016-2017 school year, please let us know as soon as possible.

FACTS ABOUT THE CLASS OF 2016: Each spring, Louisiana State University invites qualifying seniors to take part in Spring Testing. This event gives those students an opportunity to earn advanced college credits. This year 50 members of Catholic High School's Class of 2016 participated in testing and earned a total of 661 credit hours, making Catholic High once again the recipient of the LSU Spring Invitational Golden Achievement Award. This award is given to the top 20 high schools with the most hours of credit earned by its seniors. In addition, the average ACT score of the class of 2016 was 25.4 with acceptances to 100 different colleges/universities. Our 2016 grads served over 19,920 hours of community service. We are proud of the accomplishments of our recent graduates and wish them the best of luck in their future.

SUMMER OFFICE HOURS: Office hours during the summer are 8 a.m. until 3 p.m. until July 22. We will close at noon on Friday, July 1, Friday, July 8, Friday, July 15, and Friday, July 22. We will resume regular office hours (7 a.m. until 4 p.m.) on Monday, July 25. Our offices will be closed on Monday, July 4 and Tuesday, July 5.

COMPUTER ROLLOUT FOR NEW INCOMING STUDENTS: Part of your son's obligation as a Catholic High student is to attend the mandatory rollout session that will take place on July 13-14 during which we will distribute computers to new students and begin instruction about how to use and care for them. Rollout will take place from 7:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. both days and students must attend both days. On July 14, from 7:30 – 9:30 a.m. we will host a meeting for both parents and students.

Lunch will be served to students both days during rollout. A \$20 fee will be charged to your July FACTS account to cover the costs, including lunch, associated with rollout.

If previous plans prevent your son from attending these days, there is a one-day make-up session on August 3. I strongly encourage your son to attend on July 13 and 14 in order to receive the most instructional benefit and begin the new school year well. If you must attend the make-up session on August 3, please email Vicki Melancon at vmelancon@catholichigh.org.

The dates of the rollout session have been designed to give 8th grade students and freshmen the opportunity to also participate in "Summer at CHS" classes.

STUDENT SCHEDULES [From Tom Eldringhoff, Academic Assistant Principal]: In February, students completed on-line course selections for the 2016-2017 school year. Students received course verification sheets in mid-May to ensure that the courses listed were correct and to provide an opportunity for students to request changes. Requests for changes were considered if they met departmental requirements and if there was available space in the courses requested. Schedules showing the courses listed on course verification sheets will be available in mid-July through the Rediker Student Parent Portal. You will receive an email over the summer directing you to the portals. The last opportunity for any requests for course changes will begin on Monday, July 11, and end on Monday, July 18. Please be sure you have activated your Plus Portals account by the time schedules are ready in July.

BACK - TO - SCHOOL AFTERNOON: Our "Back-To-School Afternoon" will be held on Sunday, August 14, from 4-6:30 p.m. Additional details will be included in the August *Catholic High Newsletter*. Please mark your calendar for this important event.

TUITION PAYMENT PROCESS [From Gerald E. Tullier, President]:

For 2016-2017, all CHS tuition payments will again be processed through FACTS Management Company. Parents have the option of electing a monthly, semi-annual or annual payment plan, and as has always been the case, CHS tuition payments are interest

free. Each family must establish an individual FACTS account to process tuition payments.

CHS tuition for 2016-2017 is \$10,230. In addition, there is a \$450 graduation and retreat fee due for seniors in the class of 2017, and a \$450 re-registration fee (for 2017-2018) for all underclassmen. Therefore, the total of \$10,680 will be charged through FACTS. Additional course fees will be charged for AP and Band courses, as well as other incremental fees incurred throughout the year by students.

Monthly Payment Plan—Families who choose the monthly payment plan will pay tuition in 12 equal installment payments beginning in June 2016, and continuing through May 2017. Families may select either the 3rd or 15th of each month as their scheduled payment date. In cases where the 3rd or the 15th falls on weekends or holidays, the scheduled draft will be processed on the next banking day. FACTS charges a one-time per year \$45 fee for this installment plan.

Semi-Annual Payment Plan—Families who choose the semi-annual payment plan will pay tuition in two equal installment payments—July 3 and December 3, 2016. FACTS charges a one-time per year \$10 fee for this installment plan.

Annual Payment Plan—Families who choose the annual tuition payment plan will pay tuition in one installment on July 3, 2016. Though these annual payments will be processed through FACTS, there is no FACTS charge for this installment plan.

All parents of returning students should have already set up FACTS tuition accounts and payment plans.

However, if you have not done so, please do so immediately. The re-imaged laptops for student use are scheduled to be re-issued to returning students beginning at the end of June and during July. The computer roll-out for new 8th and 9th grade students will be on July 13 and 14. Whether he is a returning or new student, in order for your son to receive a laptop for his use, your FACTS account must be established and up to date.

Also, if a student's tuition account at any time becomes two months or more past due, he is subject to suspension from classes and exams until the outstanding balance has been paid. Any exceptions must be approved by the CHS President.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

ORIENTATION SCHEDULE: Orientation for all students will take place on Wednesday, August 3, and Thursday, August 4. Your son must be present for orientation at his properly assigned time. Corrective measures will result from unexcused orientation absences. Students must be checked in and seated in the wrestling room by the arrival time listed below:

2016 – 2017 Orientation Schedule

Wednesday, August 3		
Grade	Arrival Time	Alpha Listing
10th	8:00 a.m.	A-Car
	8:30 a.m.	Cas-Ga
	9:00 a.m.	Ge-La
	9:30 a.m.	Le-O
	10:00 a.m.	P-Si
	10:30 a.m.	So-Z
	11:00 a.m.	
9th	11:30 a.m.	A-Br
	12:00 p.m.	Bu-F
	12:30 p.m.	G-K
	1:00 p.m.	L-O
	1:30 p.m.	P-T
	2:00 p.m.	U-Z
Thursday, August 4		
Grade	Arrival Time	Alpha Listing
8th	8:00 a.m.	A-Z
11th	8:30 a.m.	A-Ch
	9:00 a.m.	Co-Ha
	9:30 a.m.	He-Mc
	10:00 a.m.	Me-R
	10:30 a.m.	S-Z
	11:00 a.m.	
12th	11:30 a.m.	A-B
	12:00 p.m.	C-E
	12:30 p.m.	F-K
	1:00 p.m.	L-Mi
	1:30 p.m.	Mo-Sn
	2:00 p.m.	Sq-Z

You may be bringing your son to Catholic High for his orientation, especially if he is one of our underclassmen. If that is the case, we welcome you to come into the Union and relax while orientation is in process but please allow your son to complete orientation himself, unaccompanied by you. The

process typically lasts about an hour. Thanks for your understanding in this matter.

DEBIT CARD: Positive balances on returning students' debit card accounts from the 2015-2016 school year will be carried into the 2016-2017 school year. This balance will be applied toward your son's minimum deposit at orientation. Likewise, outstanding balances on your son's account will be applied to your son's balance at orientation. If you have any questions regarding your balance, please contact Pinney Johnson, Bookstore Manager.

DRESS AND GROOMING FOR ORIENTATION: All students are required to wear a coat and tie on the day of their orientation and to be properly groomed because school pictures will be taken at that time. If your son does not have a coat, he may come with a dress shirt and tie and we will provide a coat for the picture. Please note we do not have every size.

It is particularly important that your son's hairstyle meet CHS grooming requirements. If your son's hairstyle does not meet CHS grooming requirements, he will not be allowed to complete the orientation procedure; in effect, he will be suspended from school until he has an acceptable haircut. Last year, a barber was on campus and available to cut hair when needed for a fair fee. We plan to provide the same accommodations at orientation in August. If your son uses the on-campus barber, the fee will be added to his check-out sheet at registration. If you have any questions about a hairstyle or whether or not it will be acceptable at CHS, please contact Dr. Tom Eldringhoff, Assistant Principal for Discipline, for an appointment. Please call him in advance of your visit so he can be available.

SENIORS: Seniors will be required to take school pictures at orientation for school use. This also gives parents a less expensive alternative than special senior portraits to provide to family and friends. Thus, seniors are required to wear coat and tie on the day of their orientation. Also, this summer all seniors must have a formal portrait taken by Brad Messina Photography for inclusion in the CHS yearbook. Hairstyles must meet CHS grooming requirements for this picture. [Note: the requirements outlined in the previous item for orientation dress and grooming apply to our seniors also.]

PARKING FOR 2016-2017 [From Tom Eldringhoff]: Only those students who pay parking fees will be allowed to park in either the school's Main Parking Lot or the Westmoreland Parking Lot. Security is

provided in both lots to help ensure the safety of our students and their vehicles. The CHS Board of Directors has set the parking fee for the 2016-2017 school year at \$285. Seniors and juniors will be able to purchase parking passes during student orientation. Sophomores who have a current driver's license may purchase any remaining parking passes after school has begun. Freshmen are not allowed to park in either lot and should plan accordingly. If you have questions about student parking, please contact me.

FIRST DAY FOR 8TH AND 9TH GRADERS: Friday, August 5, will be a special day of school designed exclusively for our 8th and 9th graders. 10th, 11th, and 12th grade students are not to report to school. This special day for new students is designed to acquaint them with Catholic High in an atmosphere that is less hectic than a day with the full student body in attendance. We will begin with a Liturgy for all 8th and 9th graders at 7:30 a.m. We will run a full schedule of shortened classes. Lunch will be served. Students must have their ID/debit cards (that they will have received at orientation) for this first day of school. Students will be dismissed about 2:45 p.m.

FOOTBALL PROGRAM: Parents who would like to place an ad in Catholic High's 2016 football program should contact Vicki Melancon at 383-0397 or e-mail her at vmelancon@catholichigh.org before Wednesday, July 15. Ads may be placed for a business or for your child (or a group of friends). Costs range from \$60 to \$200.

COUNSELING CENTER INFORMATION: At the beginning of each school year, the Counseling Center will provide teachers with a confidential "Special Needs List" containing the names of students who have special health concerns or diagnosed learning differences. For a student with learning differences to be on this list and receive any classroom accommodations (such as extended time for testing or special seating), a copy of the student's psycho-educational evaluation must be kept on file in the Counseling Center. The evaluation must have been conducted within 3 years of the student's CHS enrollment. For a student with special health issues, a note from his physician is required.

Please note that elementary schools do not transfer documentation of learning needs to the student's high school. Therefore, parents of incoming eighth graders, freshmen and new upperclassmen need to supply that documentation to CHS. Please send all

documentation to the Counseling Center by Friday, August 12, 2016.

If a student's name appears on the Special Needs List, it is his responsibility to talk to each of his teachers about his health concern or learning difference. If you have any questions regarding this practice or any other concern regarding your son, please contact the Counseling Center.

HAVE A WONDERFUL, RELAXING AND

PRODUCTIVE SUMMER: I hope that you and your family have a wonderful summer. Please know of my continued prayers for you, especially for your son. In late July, our August issue of the *Catholic High Principal's Newsletter* will be published.