



# SHSF Back to School News

Experiencing Joy  
through Faith, Family,  
and Community

August 15th, 2022

Issue 2

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## Back to School!

The first day of school for all students will be Wednesday, August 24th. The school day begins at 8:15am, with students being considered tardy if they are not in their classroom by 8:20am.

Until August 31st, no lunch will be provided by the school. **Students will need to bring a lunch from home.** If a student arrives without a lunch, parents will be called and asked to bring one for them.



## Drop Off & Pick Up

Drop off is between 8:00 and 8:15 am. Student instruction begins at 8:20am and students will be marked tardy after this time. There will be no carline in the mornings.

Only staff should be entering the parking lot before 8:30am. We ask that families dropping off their students park on the street and utilize the crosswalk. This is for everyone's safety. Please also be aware that parking is only allowed on one side of the street and please **do not** park in front of a driveway.

Pre-K families are asked to walk their child into the Pre-K building. Families are welcome to walk their child in for the first three days. Students will then be asked to enter the building independently. This helps students gain confidence and independence. If you need to speak with a teacher, please contact them via email and set up a meeting at a time when they're not responsible for students.

In the afternoons, families may park on School Street and walk to get their children at 2:40pm, when students come outside for carline. Walkers will be dismissed first. Then a carline will proceed. Families may start lining up at 2:25pm—no earlier. If a different family member is picking up a child, please be sure a note is sent in prior. Please be conscious of staff members that may be walking to cars and leaving the parking lot. Also, be aware of carline proceeding and people around you.

## Before & After School Care

Families who need to be at their work prior to 8am have the opportunity to drop off their students as early as 7:30am. To staff this program, we must charge families for this service. Paperwork and payment must be received prior to the student/s utilizing the programs. The cost is \$3/day or \$15/week. Families will also need to provide a letter from their employer stating the necessity that their employee be at work by 8:00am. Children will not be able to be dropped off until the letter and payment have been received. We must be sure families realize that this is a service for working families who require this service as there is limited staff, therefore there are limited spots. If your family was approved for this service last year, you do not need to provide documentation again unless you have changed employers. Before School Care will not be offered in the case of a delay to the start of the school day.



The afterschool program will run very similar to how it has in the past. Older children will participate in Homework Club, supervised by a teacher from 3- 4pm on Mondays through Thursdays. After 4pm, students will join the younger group until they are picked up by their family. The cost will remain at \$5 for the first hour, until 4:00pm, and \$10 for the entire duration of the program, until 5:05pm. Families MUST pick up their child on time. The after-school program is not offered on early release days. Again, all paperwork and payment must be received prior to the student attending the before and afterschool programs.

Both Before and After School Care will begin on the first day of school, Wednesday, August 24th.

## Volunteer Opportunities

### VOLUNTEER



Each family is expected to support and participate in the fund-raising activities of the parish/school. This means each family shares in the responsibility of educating our children and show, by example, the importance and value of service. As stated in tuition contracts, the amount of service a family gives to our school will be assessed when considering tuition assistance in the future— families need to give back to the community in order to be considered for tuition assistance.

Below are a few of the needs we have currently, and need fulfilled as soon as possible. Reach out if you are willing to fulfill one:

- Lunch servers (11:00-12:30pm)
- Crossing Guard (7:55-8:15am)
- Room Parents



# Uniforms

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This year, students will be allowed to wear a uniform green polo year-round. The only time the students will not be allowed to wear a green polo will be on days when we attend Mass, such as our weekly school mass, or other special events. These days will be communicated with students at school and with families in weekly updates and newsletters throughout the year. Khaki shorts and/or skorts will still only be considered “warm weather” uniform. Khaki pants are appropriate year-round. I would also like to share a couple reminders to all families regarding our uniform policy. Our uniform shows the pride we take in ourselves and our school.

- It is important that clothing is clean.
- Only white, black, and navy blue socks are permitted and should be worn at all times.
- Hair must be a natural color, and regardless of length, it must be out of the student’s face.
- Boots, Crocs, sandals, or other shoes without a back are not permitted. Boots are encouraged for outside play in snowy or wet weather but students must bring an appropriate change of shoes.
- Even if awarded a “no-uniform day”, students must follow the dress code outlined in the handbook.
- No smart watches permitted.



Parents will be notified if a student is out of uniform and may be asked to bring what is needed.

## Fall Soccer



Unfortunately, we did not have nearly enough interest to field a girl’s soccer team this year. 7th and 8th grade girls that are interested in playing soccer can try out for the MAU soccer team. Meeting on Wednesday, Aug. 31 at 3:00pm at the MAU Middle School in the Cafeteria. Try-outs for the RED team will begin on Thursday, Sep. 1 from 3:30-5:00 p.m. on the MS south field (Contact coach Julia Lacoste (RED) [Lacoste@SVSU.org](mailto:Lacoste@SVSU.org) with any questions.

There are only a few players short of being able to field a boys team. If any middle school boys did not express interest on the survey, please click here to fill it out: [Soccer Interest Survey](#). We will let families know by Friday, August 19th if we have enough players to have a team.

## Tardies & Absences

COVID was difficult on us all. With that being said, it is important that as we move into another school year, we are all doing our best to make it a priority that students are in school. It is in our mission to provide excellence in academics and it is important that families have their children to school on time and as often as possible in order for that aspect of our mission to be met. It is a partnership. Please be considerate and keep children home in the case of illness but do not allow students to miss for unnecessary reasons.

The school day starts at 8:20am. If students are not in their classrooms by that time, they will be marked tardy. Being present in the morning is important for being organized and starting the day feeling settled, unrushed, and aware of certain expectations.

Absences will be marked as “excused” or “unexcused”. Parents should call the office and communicate an absence by 9:00am. If a parent communicates an absence, we will consider that absence excused. If a parent is reporting that a student is sick for 3 or more days in a row, the school has the right to ask for a doctor’s note. After 20 absences, excused or unexcused, a meeting will be called with the family.



## Book Fees

Book fees need to be paid **as soon as possible**. Text books will not be distributed to students until their fees have been paid.



Preschool:	\$90
Kindergarten:	\$110
First Grade:	\$120
Second Grade:	\$130
Third Grade:	\$140
Fourth Grade:	\$140
Fifth Grade:	\$150
Sixth Grade:	\$160
Seventh Grade:	\$160
Eighth Grade:	\$160



If you are new to our school or you have not joined already, you are invited to use our school's information management system – FACTS SIS or Renweb. This is a private and secure parent portal that will allow parents to see academic information specific to their children, while protecting their children's information from others. We also use their Alert System for school emergencies and weather related delays and closings. We hope to improve our communication with you by using their features. Please create an account if you have not done so already.

To create an account in the Parent Portal, follow this link:

[www.https://logins2.renweb.com/logins/ParentsWebLogin.aspx](https://logins2.renweb.com/logins/ParentsWebLogin.aspx)

Our District code is SH-VT

The School of Sacred  
Heart St. Francis de Sales

307 School Street  
Bennington, VT 05201

Phone: 802-442-2446  
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## From the Principal

I hope everyone had a beautiful summer that involved spending lots of time with family and friends and recharging for what I believe is going to be a wonderful school year. I am so delighted that you are part of our amazing learning community. I welcome and value your positive energy and dedication to excellence in education, and I look forward to working with you and your children.

All signs point to another incredible and productive school year. Our skilled and devoted staff is already planning and preparing for your child(ren). Our enthusiastic office team is registering new families, organizing and updating student files, and preparing for students' arrival. Our hard working and conscientious custodians have spent the entire summer thoroughly cleaning our buildings. We are indeed a joyous and caring community with the common goals of nurturing responsible, caring students and promoting high-level learning.

Each year brings positive change. I am so excited to welcome Fr. Kevin Rousseau to our SHSF community. We also have a few additions to our top-notch teaching staff. We are delighted to welcome Mrs. Sarah Paquin, Mr. Cody McDaniel, and Mrs. Nora Kennedy. I am excited to see their relationships with students grow as they provide a quality instruction and challenge to our students.

I thank God each and every day for the opportunity to be a part of something so wonderful. I encourage you to thank Him for the blessings He brings into your life and to pray for another memorable and successful school year. See you at Open House!