

Thank you to those that participated in our Coffee with the Principal event on January 17 held in our LaSallian lounge! A special thank you goes out to Patti Fabrizio for helping to promote and coordinate the event.

The forum presented an opportunity for parents of the Saint Patrick community to learn more about current and future doings from the principal's prospective. In addition, families were given an opportunity to ask questions and further discuss other issues that needed clarification or additional explanation.

Below is a brief summary of the agenda items:

- Results of test day:
While the actual number of students tested was not shared, we discussed how we were happy and encouraged by the turnout on January 11. I thanked the parents for all their help and asked for their continued support as we try to solidify the student's commitment to Saint Patrick High School.
- Strategic planning
The strategic planning process successfully kicked off December 7. The participating members celebrated mass together and then moved into our work session. The initial process involved looking at outside influences, events, etc. that may impact Saint Patrick moving forward over the next five years and beyond. Our next session, January 25, will involve looking internally at Saint Patrick and how the outside factors might impact our plan design. As previously mentioned, the goal will be to share the plan with the larger St. Patrick community in the fall of 2014.
- ACT achievement
We are happy to report that our ACT scores are the highest they have been in over 10 years! This is an increase of over 5% in our composite scores from the previous school year. The senior class, their teachers, and parents should celebrate this outstanding achievement.
- Calendar for 14-15
I discussed that we were in the process of finalizing the calendar for the 2014-2015 school. The biggest change in the calendar will be the move to late start Wednesdays in order to provide for more professional development and curriculum work for our teachers and staff. Once the calendar is finalized, we will share the results with the rest of the community.

- Summer school

Summer school will be offered over 2, 4 week sessions as it has been done in the past. The change is that classes will be offered Monday – Thursday and Fridays will be off. Each class will be an additional 45 minutes in length to make up for the classes not offered on Fridays. This will be a cost savings to the school as well as provide a long weekend for all those involved in the sessions. Athletic and activity camps may choose to go on Fridays, but summer school will not be in session and the main office will be closed on Fridays beginning June 13 – August 1.

- Tuition assistance opportunity offer

I shared a tuition opportunity offer for families that were returning for the 2014-2015 school year. Below is the information:

Families returning to Saint Patrick's for the 2014-2015 term and with a familial tie to Saint George High School in Evanston: If tuition assistance next school year will be required, the Saint George Alumni Association might help. By your son stopping by between Tuesday, March 18th through Holy Week Wednesday, April 16th, secure an Application for possible 2014-2015 Saint George Shamrock tuition assistance from Mr. Doyle in room 208. Mark those critical March and April dates on your 2014 calendar now!

Our next coffee with the principal will be March 21, 2014 at 7 AM in the LaSallian Lounge. We would love to see more of our families participate!