



ST. DOMINIC SAVIO

CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

June 27, 2016

Dear Savio Families,

Thank you for your support of our school and your commitment to Catholic education during this year. Earlier this month, our community celebrated the graduation of 96 members of the class of 2016. We look forward to hearing about their continued growth and success as alumni. At the same time, we welcome the incoming class of 2020, who will begin their servant leader journey during new student orientation and the freshman retreat in August. We have several important developments to share with you as we continue to prepare for the 2016-2017 school year.

Uniforms: We have made two adjustments to the uniform requirements for next year. The first adjustment is regarding permitted outerwear, so students and parents are recommended to review the uniform letter in the Eagle Weekly. The second modification is the introduction of a senior shorts privilege, which is also detailed in the uniform letter.

Daily Schedule: Next year we will have a new daily schedule that includes an optional tutoring session after first period on Monday and Friday mornings. Also, teachers will be available for help before the school day begins every morning from 7:45 AM to 8:15 AM. Finally, the new schedule features a consistent dismissal time of 3:20 each day, except on Mass days, when we will dismiss at 3:30 PM. We feel these changes will benefit all of our families and students and improve availability of tutoring help for struggling students.

Parking Lot: Since Neenah Avenue now connects to Avery Ranch, parents and students are advised to take care when entering and exiting the school. We will be creating a two-direction exit lane to help with the traffic flow, but all drivers are advised to take extra care when turning from or onto Neenah. Additionally, we will be requiring all students to purchase a parking permit from the Assistant Principal during the first week of school. The permit will be \$10 and will last the entire school year.

Leadership System: St. Dominic Savio will be implementing a new student leadership system next fall, based on the "House System" used at many other schools. This system helps draw leaders from each one of our Family Advisory homerooms to form both our student council and our family leadership council. This new system should provide better connections between student council and the student body and increases the number of leadership opportunities for Savio students.

New Faculty and Staff: We are pleased to welcome several new staff and faculty members for the 2016-2017 school year. Sister Catherine Thomas will be joining the theology department after teaching at Notre Dame High School in Peoria, Illinois. She replaces Sister Maria Veritas, who will be teaching theology in Chicago next year at St. Ignatius College Prep. We are partnering with the Alliance for Catholic Education (ACE) program to bring two teachers to campus in the fall. ACE teachers work in Catholic schools for two years while earning a Master's Degree in Education from Notre Dame University. Ms. Alison O'Connor will be teaching in the science department after graduating with an engineering degree from Notre Dame. Mr. Andrew Clem joins the social sciences department after graduating from Santa Clara University with a degree in History. Mr. Clem takes the place of Mrs. Julie Parrott, who is moving to New Haven, where her husband will be completing a fellowship at Yale University. Finally, Ms.

Katrina Bernhard will be joining the Fine Arts Department as a part-time choir and theatre teacher. She takes over for Mrs. Joyce Mink, who will still be active in Savio's after school theatre and musical programs.

Dr. Ken Kohutek will be Savio's new Director of Guidance, as Ann Kohutek is leaving Savio to help start a new Cristo Rey school in Florida. He will be joined by Mrs. Marina Glava, who will be the College Advisor for St. Dominic Savio. Mrs. Glava was previously the College and Scholarship Specialist at Round Rock High School.

Also, we welcome Mrs. Leslie deSilva as Development Assistant next year. Mrs. deSilva will be maintaining records of financial gifts and tax letters. Families may contact her at ldesilva@saviochs.org. Last but not least, Mrs. Cristina Almanza will be the Director of Communications for St. Dominic Savio and Holy Family Catholic School. She takes over for Christine Holmes, who is moving to Brenham this summer.

We wish for all of our families to have a wonderful and relaxing summer. We ask that you pray for our students and faculty who will be travelling to Poland for World Youth Day. It will be a great opportunity for them to connect with millions of other Catholic youth and to bring Pope Francis' inspiration back to our campus in the fall.

Blessings,

Mr. Morgan Daniels, M.Ed.
Principal
St. Dominic Savio Catholic High School