



ST. SEBASTIAN SCHOOL

Celebrating Over 100 Years of Catholic Education

March 16, 2016

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NOTE FROM MR. HOHL – Many school families have seen this news on the Sebs e-mail blast, but here it is again:

After 21 great years at St. Sebastian School, I have decided to not return as principal next year. At this point in my life, I feel that I am ready for a professional change. I do not have plans yet for next year, but will begin to explore possibilities both inside and outside of education. It has been a pleasure working with all of you, and I am very proud of the good work we have done together for our children.

Paul Hohl

2016 – 2017 REGISTRATION – Individualized registration packets for enrollment in the 2016-2017 school year are available. If you did not pick it up at the Open House, your registration packet was sent home with your family mail carrier. Please complete and return your registration papers as soon as possible. Remember, nobody is automatically re-enrolled for both school registration & Choice registration. Good News – the \$50 late registration fee for returning families has been extended to **MARCH 18!**

EASTER VACATION – Our last day of school is Thursday, March 24. Easter Vacation lasts from Good Friday, March 25 through Sunday April 3. School resumes Monday April 4.

PADRE SERRA MARCH MADNESS - 8th grade girls are rocking the Padre Basketball tournament, winning their first two games to reach the “Elite Eight”! Their next game is on Thursday March 17th at 7:45 at Mt. Mary University on 92nd and Burleigh. Thinking positively, a win would put them in the Final Four with their next game on Saturday, March 19th at and Sunday, March 20th at a time to be determined. Come and support and cheer on our awesome 8th grade girls.

SPIRIT WEAR - Pick up is this Friday (March 18) in the school lobby from 2:00-3:15. Items not picked up will be sent through student mail carriers. Many thanks for supporting St. Sebastian Parish School.

CONE PATROL –Room 211 is on cone patrol duty the week of March 21.

CHARITY THANKS – We have thanks from two recent Charity Drives – The Guest House sent us the attached letter thanking Sebs for donating \$341.53 during Catholic Schools Week. And the Hunger Task Force says thanks for over 300 pounds of food donated during the Mr. Hohl / Bruce Springsteen Boss Food Drive. Thanks for your generosity!

ST. SEBASTIAN EMERGENCY PLAN PRACTICE SESSIONS - We have been working over the first part of the school year to improve our school Emergency Plan. Teachers and staff have reviewed it, and we are now ready to implement the changes and practice the safety drills with students. Major initiatives include Emergency Plan bags for each classroom, improved communication, and new safety scenarios to drill. New drill scenarios that we have included and will practice this school year are: Drop, Cover & Hold, Evacuation Procedure, Lockdown Procedure, Reverse Evacuation, and Shelter-In-Place. Over the next week, we will practice some of the safety drills at school. Here is our schedule of drills before Easter vacation:

Closed Area Drills – Thursday March 17 – Various Locations will be closed as announced on the PA

Drop, Cover & Hold Drill - Friday March 18

- A. In-Room Drop, Cover & Hold via PA @ 9:35
- B. Out-of-Room Drop, Cover & Hold via PA in Church Hall @ 10:05

Lockdown Drill – Wednesday March 23 @ 1:20

Feel free to discuss the Drills at home so all students are comfortable with the process.

2016 – 2017 SCHOOL CHOICE PROGRAM – St. Sebastian School Choice Program registration for both the Milwaukee (MPCP) & Wisconsin (WPCP) opened TUESDAY MARCH 1! There are big changes to the 2016-17 School Choice Program, including new financial guidelines, new on-line application system and a new definition of the parish Choice Cap. Go to the DPI website for your Choice application at:

<https://apps4.dpi.wi.gov/ChoiceParent/>

Choice Enrollment for St. Sebastian School started March 1! All Choice Registration MUST be completed and all forms turned in by **MONDAY March 20!**

NEW STANDARDIZED TESTING PROGRAM THIS SCHOOL YEAR – Like our public school friends, we will give our students the Wisconsin Forward Standardized Test. All students in grades 3-8 will take the Wisconsin Forward Standardized test in April/May. To prepare for the Wisconsin Forward test, we will use Computer class time in grades 3-8 to go over the student instructional videos so students are comfortable with the testing format. These sessions will take place Friday, March 18, Monday March 21 and Thursday, March 24. The test prep website is

<http://assets.drceirect.com/States/WI/Tutorials/Student/20160304/index.html#>

Next, we will have students practice the Wisconsin Forward exam, also in computer lab. Practice test sessions will be Monday, April 4, Thursday April 7 and Friday April 8. Actual student test sessions will begin Tuesday April 12 in the computer lab. Parents in grades 3-8 will get Wisconsin Forward Test information after Easter.

HOT LUNCH UPDATE – At the beginning of the year, parents were given a username and password for Power Lunch so you can track your child's lunch account balance. This is same username and password that you use for Power School. At this time, a large number of students have a negative balance. Please be conscientious about checking this and supplementing your account as needed.

Our lunch program needs to stay on budget. Therefore:

- If a student has an account that is over \$10 in the negative, they will be served a cheese sandwich for lunch.
- If a student has an account that is over \$20 in the negative, our lunch program has been directed by the Department of Public Instruction to stop serving lunch to that student.

If you have questions regarding your username or password, please contact Mr. Hohl.

If you have any other questions regarding the lunch program, please contact Naomi Cayce at ncayce@saintsebs.org.

TRAINEE WANTED - Carrie Pruhs, parent of 7th and 5th grade girls, maintains much of the school's website on behalf of the school office and is looking for one or two people to take over when her kids graduate. It takes a while to really get comfortable with the techniques and get to know the contacts; getting someone started now would help preserve consistency. If you are interested in learning what goes on behind the scenes with the posts on the website and like working with computers, this volunteer position is for you. The program, WordPress, is easy to use and is web-based, so you could work from home. As little as 30 minutes per month would be needed to keep the site maintained once you are familiar with the program. Contact Carrie at cpruhs@sbcglobal.net or call 414-302-9551 for more information.

ALUMNI UPDATE - Matthew Sowinski (St Seb's /St Coletta Alumni, class of 2015) recently participated in the Rube Goldberg Machine Competition, hosted by WCTC March 4, 2016, along with his teammates & proudly representing Milwaukee Lutheran High School. This year's machine challenge was to open an umbrella in 20 or more steps. The team chose a Dr. Seuss theme for their machine and accomplished their task in 56 steps.

To see their machine in action here...<https://m.youtube.com/watch?feature=youtu.be&v=nXLKzrEsudQ>

(Matthew and his partner designed and built the "How the Grinch Stole Christmas" section.)
His team received the award for the Best Technical Writing of their Machine's Steps.

HIGH INTEREST DAY - Forms are now due. Please register your kids and sign the permission slip on the back of the form. Volunteers are really needed for this day. Your kids really love having you involved (and so do we!). "Sometimes the most important thing you can do is just show up." [Brene Brown]. Please contact High Interest Day Committee Co-chairs: Scott Welak: scott_welak@hotmail.com or Catherine Bresser: Ccbresser@gmail.com with questions.

ADULT BASKETBALL OPEN GYM - Sundays 8:30-10:00 Cost \$2.00. If interested, contact Mike Lehmann at 414-745-9987.

SCRIP – Remember, when you participate in SCRIP, the profit you earn can be applied to your registration school fees. Contact the school office for details.

TWO SPECIAL NON-UNIFORM DAYS - * * Thursday, March 17 is St. Patrick's Day – Students can add green to the school uniform and can wear jeans. Other school dress code rules apply.

**** STUDENT COUNCIL STEWARDSHIP PROJECT ANNOUNCEMENT** - In the spirit of Mercy, students of St. Sebastian and St. Coletta Schools will be collecting hygiene products for homeless veterans of Milwaukee for Dryhooch. As one of their many services, Dryhooch provides backpacks filled with hygiene products for both male & female homeless veterans. This Friday, March 18, any student who donates a minimum of \$1, to help purchase back packs, will be allowed a dress down day. Each grade level will be asked to donate a specific item that will help complete a backpack. The collection will run throughout the Easter season. **Each grade will be collecting the following items:** K4 – shampoo, K5 – soap, 1st – toothpaste, 2nd – toothbrushes, 3rd – combs, 4th – hairbrushes, 5th – hair ties, 6th – shaving cream, 7th – disposable razors (men/women), 8th – baby powder, St. Coletta – baby wipes

For more information about Dryhooch, please go to Dryhooch.org. and thank you for helping to provide support for our homeless veteran heroes.

2016 WISCONSIN ALL-CATHOLIC SCHOOL CHESS INVITATIONAL RESULTS - The 8th Annual Wisconsin All-Catholic Chess Tournament sponsored by St. Sebastian and hosted by Marquette University was held on March 12th. 69 students from Catholic Schools across Wisconsin participated in three divisions. Fourteen students from St. Sebastian competed in the tournament. Team highlights included 2nd Place Team trophies for the Sebs players in the K-6 and K-12 Divisions and a 3rd Place team trophy for Sebs K-3 Division. At the individual level, John Cayen took first place in the K-12 division with a perfect tournament score of 5 wins and 0 losses.

The K-3 team was made up of Joe Murray, Luke Murray, Shannon Terry and Zachary Klarer. Ben Kayser, Michael Whitney, Josephine Pruhs, Marik McKenna, Franny Bresser, Anna Lichucki, Leo Rowen and Cooper Rowen represented Sebs in the K-6 division. Patrick Whitney and John Cayen competed in the K-12 division made of mostly high school players.

Congratulations to all the Sebs players! Special thanks to all the parent volunteers who made our tournament one of the best in the region: Dan Kayser, Wendy Conklin, Jeff and Christa Klarer, Chris Terry, CJ and Megan Murray, Steve Whitney, Catherine Bresser and Carrie Pruhs.

YAC SPORTS AWARDS NIGHT -Tuesday MARCH 22nd 7:00pm - Students in grades 5-8 who participated in St Sebastian volleyball or basketball this year will be recognized at the 2016 YAC Sports Awards Night! Coaches, parents and players are invited to attend this event in the Church Hall (sorry, no siblings). Light refreshments will be served. Students in attendance are eligible to win fun raffle prizes! Talk it up with your friends and show your team spirit by encouraging all of your teammates to attend!

Please, no jeans or sweat pants at this event.

Also, if you haven't turned in your basketball uniform, bring it with you please. Individual invitations will not be sent, so please mark your calendars, now!