



ST. SEBASTIAN PARISH SCHOOL'S

# BRICK LOT *Bulletin*

August 2022

## From the Principal's Office



### Welcome Back!

I am excited to welcome our students, families, teachers, and staff to the 2022-23 school year! A special welcome to new families: We are

thrilled to welcome you to our school community. Welcome also to our new teachers/staff: Giana D'Andrea (preschool teacher and 2013 St. Sebastian graduate), Karen Swartz (1st-grade teacher), Ruth Perez (Spanish teacher), Dr. Carrie Willett (school psychologist), and Jeanne Schmidt (speech therapist). Over the summer, longtime classroom aide Diane Fresh announced her retirement, and Rachel O'Neill was hired in her place. We wish Diane all the best and thank her for her many years of helping our youngest learners.

### MAP Scores Place St. Sebastian in the Top 15% Nationwide

I am proud to share that our school earned both **high growth and high achievement ratings in all subject areas** as recorded by the spring MAP tests (Measures of Academic Progress). Our students scored above 85% of all students taking the test in all four subject areas (math, reading, language, and science). And though there is still room to continue to grow, **these scores place St. Sebastian Parish School in the top 15% of schools nationwide in reading and math!** For the first time since I have been at this school, which is about 18 years, we have qualified to apply for the

National Blue Ribbon Schools Program. We have already started gathering data and will keep you updated on the application process.

### School Building Projects

Many thanks to the summer work crew, especially facilities manager Mike Zimmerman, for all their hard work getting our buildings ready. All of the classrooms have new blinds and ceiling fans. New carpeting was installed in the office as well as in the last three classrooms that still had tile floors. The hallway floors were replaced in the basement, second floor, and junior high wing, and all of this work was covered by warranty. The last two classrooms, music and art, were upgraded with new interactive display boards. Phase two of the Haven lock systems was installed by Todd DeKatch and Brad Horning, completing the process of adding this safety feature to doors campus-wide. There are new picnic tables in the courtyard and new tables in the cafeteria. Both purchases were partially funded by the U.S. Department of Education through the EANS (Emergency Assistance to Non-Public Schools) program to create safe, collaborative spaces for students.

### Byrider Hall Improvements

Byrider Hall (the gym building) is in the midst of a big upgrade. The entry hallway has new commercial-grade carpet that will absorb snow and ice to help keep our gym floor clean and dry. The interior brick walls were painted to create a bright, fresh look. The bathroom floors were replaced with a new polymer epoxy coating. Outside, a new poured-concrete entrance provides a smooth and level path to the main doors. And coming soon, a glass-enclosed entrance similar to the new school entrance will be constructed.



*Weller Update: Weller had a fun summer playing in the water, chewing on sticks, and taking walks. He completed two therapy dog training classes before having a tricky*

*but successful surgery for AVM (arterio-venous malformation). Weller, who turned nine months old on August 15, is looking forward to seeing the students soon!*

### New SAC, HASA Representatives

Welcome to the following new School Advisory Committee (SAC) members: John Hickey, Carolyn Coleman, Nicole Clymire, and Matt Ryan. SAC members advise the principal on school policies and programs. Welcome also to our new HASA (Home and School Association) board members: Bernadette Gibson (president), Tina Davenport (vice president), Theresa Wilgus (treasurer), and Priya Hickey (secretary). Huge thanks to former board members Carrie Rea, Carolyn Coleman, and Tricia Rothkopf. All three years of their leadership were impacted by the pandemic, yet they still provided many opportunities for our students and support/appreciation for the teachers. We can't thank you enough!

Yours in Christ,

Anthony Rohr  
Principal

### Questions or Suggestions?

Please email Anne Dennee, newsletter editor, at [Anne@DenneeFamily.com](mailto:Anne@DenneeFamily.com)

# Students in the News

In case you missed it, here are a few highlights from the spring.

## May Crowning

The Class of 2022 selected Isabella Incorvia and Jude Rothkopf for the honor of crowning the statue of the Blessed Virgin during our May 12 May Crowning Mass. Bella and Jude were chosen by their classmates for best exemplifying the characteristics of our Catholic faith. The May Crowning Mass is a long-standing school tradition that honors Mary during the month of May.



## MATHCOUNTS Gold Status

Congratulations to MATHCOUNTS team members Sebastian Blaser, Marcus Chuba, Allison Raita, Julia Rea, Isaac Sullivan, Timothy Sullivan, Will Tober, and Owen Ziemann, whose entry in the MATHCOUNTS video competition helped our school earn gold-level status again this year! Kudos also to these team members who participated in the annual MATHCOUNTS competition in the spring: Sebastian Blaser, Marcus Chuba, Frances Knauer, Allison Raita, Julia Rea, Jude Rothkopf, Isaac Sullivan, Timothy Sullivan, Will Tober, and Owen Ziemann. Top finishers in our school competition were Jude Rothkopf (first place) and Sebastian Blaser (second place).



## Power of the Pen Team Takes Top Honors

Our Power of the Pen team finished the year strong, earning fourth place out of 187 schools at the May 13 state tournament. Congratulations to team members Julia Rea, Catie Bordenkircher, Suzana Borges, Sophia Burgoyne, and Susie Thomas. Special congratulations to Susie, who placed 11th in the state and won a Platinum Pen award, and to Suzana, who placed third in the state, received two Platinum Pen awards and earned two Best of Round awards. Suzana was also awarded a scholarship to Otterbein University.

## 8th-Grade Trip to Washington, DC

In May, our 8th-grade students enjoyed a three-day trip to Washington, DC. First up was a stop in Pennsylvania for a tour of the Gettysburg National Military Park, which brought their history curriculum of the U.S. Civil War to life. In DC, our group enjoyed evening tours of several memorials, including Martin Luther King Jr.; Franklin Delano Roosevelt, and Thomas Jefferson. Other DC activities included a visit to the estate of George Washington at Mount Vernon, the National Museum of the Army, and the WWII, Lincoln, Korean and Vietnam memorials. The students also enjoyed an evening of bowling, food, and fun on the second night of the trip. On the final day, our group celebrated Mass in the awe-inspiring setting of the Basilica of the Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, followed by a visit to the Pope John Paul II National Shrine featuring beautiful mosaic artwork. And finally, the students toured the National Museum of African American History and Culture to finish off this action-packed trip!



# Welcome Back!

The Welcoming Committee hopes you will join them at one of these events to start the new year off with fun and fellowship.

## New Family Picnic

August 18 (Thursday), 5:30-7:00 p.m.,  
Zwisler Hall

## Welcome Back Coffee

August 29 (Monday), 7:30 a.m.,  
School Courtyard

## Preschool/Kindergarten Parent Dinner

October 7 (Friday), 6:00-7:30 p.m.  
Zwisler Hall

# *Congratulations, Class of 2022!*



## 2021-2022 Academic Achievement & Scholarship Recipients

### **ARCHBISHOP HOBAN HIGH SCHOOL**

Fr. Dujarie Scholarship	Sebastian Blaser, Colin DiNicola, Alexandria Krohn, Timothy Sullivan
Peter Family Scholarship	Sophia Burgoyne
Daniel Jay Dietzler '68 Memorial Scholarship	Catherine Bordenkircher, Quinn Slota
Knight Award	Sophia Burgoyne, Chase Reisinger, Quinn Slota
Alumni Legacy Scholarship	Sophia Burgoyne, Sienna Byard, Colin DiNicola
Denise Maroon Finley Memorial Scholarship	Sophia Burgoyne

### **ST. VINCENT-ST. MARY HIGH SCHOOL**

Irish Academic Scholarship	Jude Rothkopf, Owen Schlueter, Nathan Sparhawk, Susan Thomas
Wheeler Family Green & Gold Scholarship	Isabella Incorvia
Irish Alumni Scholarship	Nathan Sparhawk
Christopher James Consilio Memorial Scholarship	Jackson Chapin, Madelyn Kastelic, Rowan Kelly, Zoey Zachardy
John A. Trecaso Scholarship	Jackson Chapin, Jude Rothkopf
Stephenson Memorial Scholarship	Zoey Zachardy
Jim Kelly Memorial Scholarship	Nathan Sparhawk
Hanlon Family Scholarship	Lucille Langen

### **WALSH JESUIT HIGH SCHOOL**

Pedro Arrupe Scholarship	Suzana Borges, Maxwell Sinsley
St. Jean de Brebeuf, S.J. Scholarship	James Brewer, Maxwell Sinsley
St. Francis Xavier Scholarship	James Brewer
The Gerstenmaier Family Scholarship	Suzana Borges, Maxwell Sinsley

### **ADDITIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS**

Deacon Terry Peacock, Knights of Columbus Scholarship	Sophia Burgoyne, Timothy Sullivan
HASA Youth Christian Service Scholarship	Sebastian Blaser, Isabella Incorvia
St. Sebastian Sanctuary Society Scholarship	Sophia Burgoyne
St. Irene Principal's Scholarship	Susan Thomas
Father Byrider Award	Sebastian Blaser, Suzana Borges
Sons of the American Revolution Good Citizenship Award	Peter de Boer, Isabella Incorvia, Jude Rothkopf, Taylor Sakowicz, Timothy Sullivan, Susan Thomas
Athlete of Character Award	Alexandria Krohn, Timothy Sullivan
Student Christian Athletic Award	Everett Salisbury, Lilianna Williams

# St. Sebastian Spectacular: February 11

This year's St. Sebastian Spectacular co-chairs, Erica Gerstenmaier and Colleen Tate, and their committee are excited to invite everyone to join them for "A Spectacular Evening in Paris" on Feb. 11, 2023. The evening will feature live and silent auctions, a fabulous sit-down meal, an open bar with a signature cocktail, live music, and a wonderful chance to support our wonderful school! The Spectacular is our school's largest annual fundraiser, and it is always a fun and memorable evening.



## Paddle Raise Project: Library Renovation

Every year, funds raised at Spectacular are used to offset tuition, support the school's endowment, and fund our technology program. Each year there is also a special focus for the paddle raise. The special project for the 2023 Spectacular is the school's library renovation project. The role of the library has expanded over the years to include use as a special setting for meetings, band performances, before/after care, student clubs, Santa Shop, and many more activities! The library renovations being planned will increase the flexibility of the space so our library and computer lab will serve as an innovative media center. The plan includes an updated layout, new tables and seating areas, improved teacher space, and a smart board/screen for presentations.

## Get Involved!

There are many ways you can support this event, whether it be attending the event, volunteering your time, becoming a sponsor, placing an ad in the program, or donating to the live and silent auctions. New this year, you can scan our QR code to donate from our Amazon wish list. Visit [www.stsebastian.org/school/st-sebastian-spectacular](http://www.stsebastian.org/school/st-sebastian-spectacular) to learn more, or come to the Volunteer Meeting on Sept. 13 at 7 p.m. at Forest Lodge. If you have any questions, please contact Erica at [egerstenmaier@gmail.com](mailto:egerstenmaier@gmail.com) or Colleen at [crate4512@gmail.com](mailto:crate4512@gmail.com). Your support is truly appreciated!



Amazon.com

## SCHOOL CALENDAR AND IMPORTANT DATES

### SAVE THE DATE

Parent/Teacher Conferences ~ Nov. 1, 3, 4  
No School ~ Nov. 4  
Jr. High Parent Social ~ Nov. 3  
Ladies Christmas Boutique ~ Nov. 13  
Explorer Day ~ Nov. 18  
Thanksgiving Break ~ Nov. 23-28  
Christmas Program ~ Dec. 1  
Grades 1-3 Christmas Social ~ Dec. 4  
Christmas Break ~ Dec. 21-Jan. 3  
St. Sebastian Spectacular ~ Feb. 11

### AUGUST

New Family Picnic  
8th-Grade Pool Party Social  
Open House  
First Day of School (Grades 1-8)  
Kindergarten Orientation Sessions  
Preschool Orientation Sessions  
Kindergarten Half Day  
Welcome Back Coffee @ School Courtyard  
First Full Day: Preschool & K  
Confirmation Meeting (8th Grade)  
August 18 (Thursday), 5:30-7 p.m.  
August 18 (Thursday), 6-9 p.m.  
August 21 (Sunday), 11 a.m.-1 p.m.  
August 23 (Tuesday)  
August 23-25 (Tues.-Thurs.), 8-9 a.m.  
August 23-25 (Tues.-Thurs.), 9-10 a.m.  
August 26 (Friday), 7:55-11 a.m.  
August 29 (Monday), 7:30 a.m.  
August 29 (Monday)  
August 29 (Monday), 7-8 p.m.

### SEPTEMBER

No School – Labor Day  
Celebrity Night Social @ Akronym  
Spectacular Volunteer Meeting  
@ Forest Lodge  
Mum plant pick up  
HASA Meeting  
Confirmation Retreat (8th Grade)  
Picture Day  
Early Dismissal (1 p.m.) & No Aftercare:  
Teacher Professional Day  
September 5 (Monday)  
September 8 (Thursday), 7-10 p.m.  
September 13 (Tuesday), 7 p.m.  
September 17 (Saturday), 9 a.m.-12 p.m.  
September 22 (Thursday), time TBA  
September 23-25 (Friday-Sunday)  
September 29 (Thursday)  
September 29 (Thursday), 1 p.m.

### OCTOBER

Preschool/Kindergarten Parent Dinner  
Trunk or Treat Social  
End of First Quarter  
Monster Mash  
No School, Teacher Professional Day  
Confirmation Meeting (8th Grade)  
Halloween Parade  
October 7 (Friday), 6-7:30 p.m.  
October 14 (Friday)  
October 20 (Thursday)  
October 20 (Thursday)  
October 21 (Friday)  
October 24 (Monday), 7-8 p.m.  
October 28 (Friday)