WEEKLY UPDATE

Calendar update:

The Archdiocese will conform to the State's guidance and continue the closure of our school through the end of the year, June 11, 2020.

Volume III, Issue 40

Important News and Notes:

Teacher of the Year!! Congratulations to Mrs. Karin Abbott, our music teacher and Arts Integration Specialist, who has been named the Archdiocese of Baltimore Archdiocesan Elementary School Teacher of the Year! Mrs. Abbott faced some stiff competition as teachers from more than 40 other Catholic schools within the Archdiocese were considered for this prestigious award! Thank you for always making Slade proud!



Distance Learning Security - Google and Zoom continue to release security updates to their platforms in an effort to keep students safe, and as updates are released, we activate them. While the teachers regularly remind students about safe online behaviors, we ask that you also reinforce the following:

- 1. Students are not permitted to share their login IDs, passwords, or login codes with anyone, outside of parents.
- 2. Students in grades 2-8 who are using Google Meet must use the official Monsignor Slade school-issued Google user account when logging in. If they are using a sibling's, parent's, or personal account to enter the Google Classroom, they will not be allowed to enter the class.
- 3. When present in online classes, students' faces should be visible. It is not recommended to post avatars, icons, or pictures in place of their faces, as part of the teaching experience is interacting with the children.

Thank you in advance for your support in keeping our children safe.

T2 Honor Roll Recipients

Principal's Honors

8th Grade: Jason Bannerman, Janie Batchelor, Sadie Ceryes, Corina Crill, Avery Durm, Grace Eberling, Maggie Goff, Matthew Lenzenweger, Colby Rich, Ethan Rizzutti, Rowan Schneider, Erin Shepherd, Abena Tweneboah-Koduah, Molly Youngblood

7th Grade: Gabriella Daramola, David Fritz, Claire Haase, Allison Mehta, Alex Pfeiffenberger, Isabelle Salazar, Amaya Stewart, Brianna Wells

6th Grade: Quinn Allison, Mia Cronk, Abigail DelValle, Broderick Durm, Margaret Fritz, Liam Holstege, Jonathan Kandrac, Audrey Kregelka, Piper Lagoey, Kaitlin Moon, Nissa Rab, Sarah Safatli, Molly Toth



May 22, 2020

Important News and Notes (continued):

Second Honors

8th Grade: Charlotte Acks, Lillian Bryson, William DelValle, Matthew Ford, Timothy Gottschalck, Sophie Greene, Andy Huynh, Christian Long, Alexandria Moon, Sienna Mueller, Kaylie Vess

7th Grade: Isabella Adams, Alex Alarcon, Joshua Driver, Kendall McDaniel, Emily Muir, Johan Patilano, Aidan Pelura, Christina Pierce, Adam Rogers, Madaline Scanlon, Rachel Wilson, Christopher Zaugg

6th Grade: ZaChely Arrey-Mbeng, Emily Bartz, Haylie Bond, Genevieve Bryson, Sophie Czaus, Dane Dutchover, Gavin Foley, Kerrin Jones, Gabrielle Kelch, Leah Keller, Brooke Maenner, Brody McKenna, Sofia Petro, Michaela Shunk, Nate Stauder, Sarah Stielper, Genna Wagner, Elijah Wilkins, Ryan Willman, Tyler Wisniewski

Academic Commitment Award

Grade 8: Danica Dunevant, Jackson Peterson

Grade 7: Alex Pfeiffenberger, Isabelle Salazar

Grade 6: Audrey Kregelka, Brooke Maenner

Planning Ahead Task Force for Catholic Schools - Please see the attached letter from Chancellor Sellinger and Superintendent Hargens about the newly established Planning Ahead Task Force which will design a comprehensive plan for the safe return of both students and faculty to the classroom as well as establish standards related to safety, curriculum, and school operations.

Standardized Testing - Due to distance learning continuing through the end of the school year, students will not be participating in standardized testing this year. The Archdiocese has selected a new testing platform, Scantron, which will be used beginning in the 2020-2021 school year. Please see the attached letter for more information regarding the new standardized testing platform.

A Note From Operation Mato Grosso -

Dear Slade Community,

I want to let you know that for this year sadly we will not be able to ship our containers to our missions in South America.

The food we had collected before the virus started to spread has been used to help families in need here in the US. As you know, many have lost their jobs, and so, we decided to help them instead of keeping the food in a storage place waiting for it to be shipped.

But we still need to help our people down there as they need us and our support even more than before. About 97% of the support for our missions in South America comes from Italy. Since the end of February due to the lockdown, our volunteers have been and still are not able to work and raise money for the missions. Every month our Italian volunteers raise more than 500,000 euros for the mission.

In the next weeks and months, this will cut the supply line to our missions in Brazil, Bolivia, Ecuador, and Peru. This support will be needed even more so as coronavirus is



Important News and Notes (continued):

spreading there as well. The health systems in those countries are not capable of handling something like this.

Since March, our volunteers in Maryland have been delivering produce, foods, pharmaceutical drugs, etc. People are appreciating this service very much and with their tips, we were able to collect some money for the mission. As I mentioned before, we donated the food collected to local food pantries and so we have turned our food drive into a "money drive."

If anyone would like to make a monetary donation, checks can be made out to our nonprofit, Beyond Borders Inc., and they can mail it to 623 Hyde Park Road, Essex, MD 21221.

Best regards, Matteo

Counselor Corner—Mrs. Watkins:

"Worried about Family Conflicts?"

At this point we have been spending time with our families for much longer than March, April, and May normally bring to us. Many people took the first few weeks at its novelty - embraced online learning, expanded their hobbies to include baking banana bread, enjoying sleeping in, and looking at that time as a modified spring break.

Then reality hit. School buildings closed for the rest of the year, hopes of opening local businesses more fully but then pulled back, social distancing continuing to be

enforced and suggested... and very little end in sight. I don't know about your families, but my family wasn't sure how to process the news of recent events. All of a sudden, it felt as though the air was sucked out of the room, and we all looked at each other.

Then the "too much time spent together in one house" behaviors started to pop up. Bickering, extremely low tolerance levels for each other, wanting time apart but someone to play with... and way too many episodes of crying tantrums. In all honesty, there were several days at 1 p.m. that I wasn't sure I was going to make it to the end of the day without crying myself. This is hard, and something that none of us are fully equipped to handle.

What we <u>can</u> do is try our best - for families and for ourselves. This time is going to require a lot of grace and patience. These are two beautiful gifts that, as adults, we can practice. For our younger family members, it is a skill they have not yet learned. So once again, it is our charge to encourage these skills and support our children as they learn them.

First, prepare yourself when conflict arises. Take a few calming breaths, give yourself a moment of space (bathroom, pantry, closet, anything!) and regroup. Instead of instantly responding with anger or blame, try calming yourself first. This eliminates the risk of putting your child on the defensive. When someone is defensive, they have a very hard time listening to anything you have to say.



Counselor Corner: (continued)

Second, connect emotionally then logically. This is the main theme in the Whole Brain Child by Siegel - we need to be "heard" about how we are feeling in order to listen to someone's logic. If we don't think someone is understanding how we feel, how could they possibly understand our motives? State what emotion you think you are seeing, and it is okay to be wrong! For example, after you have calmed yourself and are approaching your child who is struggling with what you perceive as frustration, you can ask, "It looks to me like you are really frustrated. Does that sound right?" Chances are, you are close in your assessment. Instead of immediately diving in with solutions, ask questions about how your child is feeling about that emotion. Don't immediately ask "why" either many times they don't know why! After they feel understood emotionally, you can problem solve together. Don't solve the problem for them.

Lastly, when problem solving, work as a team. After a particularly disastrous afternoon of the girls arguing and bickering over Every. Single. Thing., I knew it was time for a reset. I called a "family meeting" on blankets in the living room and stated the obvious. "I can see that you two have had a really hard time getting along today. How are you each feeling?" It turns out that my oldest daughter wanted some quiet time, but my younger daughter wasn't having it. The younger one wanted to play Legos with her sister who kept refusing. Stalemate. Instead of yelling at them to "just get along," I grabbed a white board and we brainstormed together about solutions. Ideas from creating a schedule, to taking turns picking the activity, all the way to timers being set for quiet time. The girls came up with solutions, I wrote each one down. Then we read all of the ideas and circled our favorites. Did we pick one solution that just one person came up with? Nope! We had created an arsenal of solutions to try when the next conflict occurred. The key word in that last sentence is <u>when</u>. Does this solve the issues of conflict for our family forever? Of course not. But what it did was help us work as a team to solve a problem and laid the groundwork for the next issue that arose. Rather than the girls expecting me to yell if I ever heard them bickering, they knew they could call a family meeting, and we would work together.

One final key point: There is no place for blame in conflict. Even if one of your children smacks their sibling, it is a cry for support. If you approach the child that hit and asked what they were feeling, I'm sure that they would say something along the lines of being unheard or lonely. Even if they start by saying "angry," the deeper emotion is something much more difficult. Use your connection to dig deep and find out what that emotion is saying. Providing support and saying, "I'm sure that it didn't feel good to lose control like that; let's think of a way to keep that from happening again." And when it happens again, you support and explore the emotions together.

I'm here if you need support! Make sure you take a look at the Counselor Corner Resources at the end of this update. Stay safe, and keep up the amazing work!

~Mrs. Watkins

Advancement Announcements:

Please submit photos of your family or Monsignor Slade student(s) to Mrs. Hilmer. Be creative! Let's keep our community connected and have fun! Remember, be sure to listen to Mrs. Cox's morning message for daily photo challenges she may announce. Send via email at <u>c.hilmer@msladeschool.com</u> or social media. We miss you all so very much!

amazonsmile

Don't forget! - As you do your online shopping, remember to visit smile.amazon.com to support Monsignor Slade Catholic School. <u>https://</u> <u>smile.amazon.com/</u> ch/52-0977368.

Advancement Announcements (continued):



BOOST Application deadline extended! The Maryland State Department of Education has opened the BOOST applications for families who wish to send their children to private school. All families who have received BOOST funding in the past MUST reapply each year to continue to receive that award. The application deadline is June 1, 2020, until midnight (12:00 a.m.). For more information, visit: http:// marylandpublicschools.org/ Pages/boost/application.aspx.

To share this information with other families, please see the flyer at the end of the update.

Referral Credit - There are still seats available for the 2020-2021 school year. Remember Monsignor Slade families are able to receive a \$500 referral credit after that new student has been enrolled for a full year, if that applicant indicates their family name or their student's name on the application. Think of friends and neighbors who might be seeking a new educational experience and share the great news about Monsignor Slade!

Celebrating the Class of 2020! Any families who have special celebrations planned for their Monsignor Slade graduates in the coming months, please consider sharing photos and brief explanations. Mrs. Hilmer would like to continue recognizing our graduating class! Send via social media message or to c.hilmer@msladeschool.com.

Sports Section:

The Athletic Council still has a couple of open positions that need to be filled for next year's Sports Programs. Please check them out! See flyer attached!

HASA Happenings:

The Home and School Association at Monsignor Slade Catholic School needs your help! We have two positions available for election to the Home and School Association's Executive Board for next school year. All parents are members of our Home and School Association, but we need volunteers to step forward and run for office to help our organization achieve its goals for our school community. With fewer fundraisers scheduled for next year, the Association hopes to focus more on the immediate needs of our school community. Please consider running for office to serve on the Executive Board in one of the following available positions: Vice-President and Secretary. You will find a job description listed below for each of the positions available to serve on the HASA Executive Board for the 2020-2021 school year.

The **Vice-President**, in the absence of the President, shall perform all of the duties of the President and such duties as are assigned to this officer. The Vice-President is responsible for the recruiting and appointing of chairpersons for fund-raising events.

The **Secretary** shall keep the minutes of all Association meetings and meetings of the Executive Committee and shall keep a list of all members of the Association. In addition, the secretary shall maintain a file of all incoming and out-going communications and records. When requested, the Secretary shall prepare any official correspondence of the Association.

If interested in either of the above positions, please contact both Kerry McDaniel, Home and School Association President, at <u>kklmcd5@yahoo.com</u> and Mrs. Cox at <u>a.cox@msladeschool.com</u>, with your qualifications and reasons of interest.

Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord

O God of endless ages, you sent your Son into the world to bring salvation to your people. He commissioned his disciples to go out into the world and preach the Good News. That commission is extended to us. baptized in his name. Inspire us to preach that same Good News. Make us aware that the Lord Jesus is with us always. May we continue to embrace the call to be true evangelizers in his name. We ask this through the risen Christ, who is Lord forever and ever. Amen.





Mission Statement

The mission of Monsignor Slade Catholic School is to promote Catholic faith and intellectual development in our students. We do this by teaching about and modeling the precepts of the Catholic faith, as well as challenging our students with a rigorous course of study. We do this so that they will use their faith, knowledge, and skills to shape their futures positively and work for the benefit of the whole society.



May 22, 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As we wrap up the 2019-2020 school year, we want to thank you for your continued support of and investment in a Catholic education for your children. Over the past 12 weeks, our number one goal has been the safety and well-being of your children and our school communities as we continue to provide the best education possible during this unprecedented time. As we conclude the 2019-2020 school year, please know that we are already working diligently with your school's leadership team in preparation for the 2020-2021 school year.

The Archdiocese of Baltimore's Department of Catholic Schools has created a team to develop a plan for the 2020-2021 school year. The **"Planning Ahead Task Force for Catholic Schools"** has been established to design a comprehensive plan for the safe return of both faculty and students to the classroom, focusing on the following four areas:

- School Facilities Operations
- Curriculum, Pedagogy and Student Support Services
- Classroom Technology
- Safe COVID 19 Response Protocols (including physical distancing, sanitization and hygiene)

The goal of the Planning Ahead Task Force is to provide standards to address safety, curriculum, and all aspects of our schools' operations. We will establish clear guidelines and protocols for each school, including additional resources needed to implement the plan. While our schools operate independently from our public school counterparts, we are required to follow local and state laws and ordinances and we will adhere to relevant safety measures and guidelines issued by government and public health officials, as well as local Pastors. The plan will include contingencies to address potential guidelines and external factors that may affect how your school will reopen.

Over the coming weeks, the Planning Ahead Task Force will finalize a comprehensive plan to welcome students back to school. We appreciate your support, patience, and understanding and we will continue to keep you updated as the Task Force finalizes the plan to move forward for the 2020-2021 school year.

Be safe & stay healthy.

Sincerely,

James B. Sellinger Chancellor of Catholic Schools

Ronna W. Ha

Dr. Donna Hargens Superintendent of Catholic Schools

320 Cathedral Street, Baltimore, MD 21201-4421 / (410) 547-5515 / Fax: (410) 547-5566



Dear Parents and Family Members,

As you are probably aware, standardized testing for spring 2020 has been cancelled due to school closures associated with COVID-19. While we are disappointed at the lost opportunity to gain a better understanding of our students' performance and academic growth, I am happy to provide some great news associated with standardized testing starting in the 2020-21 academic year.

In December of 2019, the Department of Catholic Schools embarked on the process to evaluate standardized assessment platforms to be used in all Catholic elementary and middle schools across the diocese. We sought an assessment platform that is more flexible, better aligned to our curricula, and provides teachers with the information they need to improve their instruction and impact student achievement. After evaluating several assessment options, the Department of Catholic Schools decided to move to Scantron as the official standardized assessment platform starting in the fall of 2020.

The Scantron Performance Series will be administered three times each year in fall, winter, and spring to students in grades 2 through 8 in core content areas. An assessment for learning, the results from the Performance Series are used to identify students' ability levels, demonstrate academic growth over time, and place your child in appropriate instructional programs.

We are excited at the opportunity to assess students this fall in order to identify opportunities for student growth and to inform our instructional planning for the academic year. More information will be distributed in the coming months regarding the Scantron Assessment.

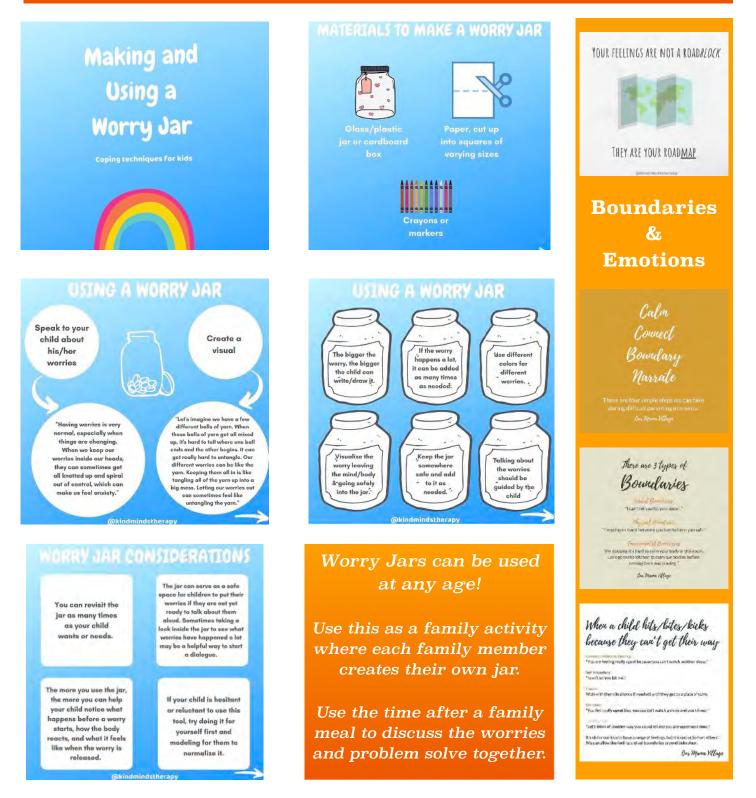
Sincerely,

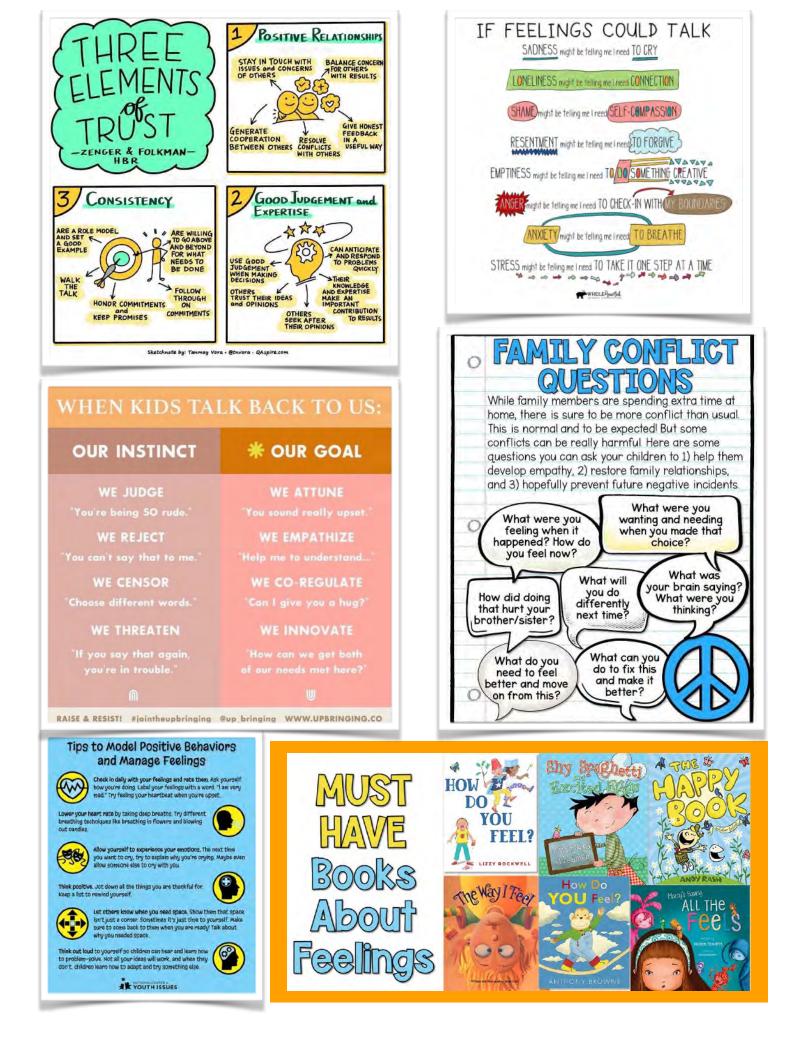
Alexa L. Cox

Mrs. Alexa Cox Principal

MAY 22, 2020

Counselor Corner Resources





Want to choose private school for your child but need financial assistance? Have you already chosen a private school for your

child but need assistance?

The State of Maryland can help!



Apply for a **BOOST** scholarship!

The State of Maryland is now accepting applications for the fifth year of its BOOST scholarship program! BOOST scholarships are given to income-eligible K-12 students to be used for attendance at an eligible nonpublic school of their parent's choice. This year, we hope see millions of scholarship dollars given by the state of Maryland, so please apply!

To apply for a BOOST Scholarship to a nonpublic school, visit: marylandpublicschools.org/BOOST

Questions? Call Maryland's BOOST Scholarship Coalition at 443-510-4501.

BOOST is a State of Maryland Program. Since 2016, more than \$24 million in BOOST scholarship awards have been provided to students to help them choose the K-12 education option best suited for them.



¿Desea elegir una escuela privada para su hijo pero necesita ayuda financiera?

¿Ya ha elegido una escuela privada para su hijo pero necesita ayuda?

El Estado de Maryland le puede ayudar!



¡Aplique para una beca **BOOST**!

El Estado de Maryland ahora está aceptando solicitudes para el tercer año de su programa de beca BOOST. Las becas BOOST se proporcionan a estudiantes de K-12 que califican por el ingreso de sus familias para asistir a una escuela no pública que elijan sus padres.

Visite **www.educationmaryland.org/BOOST** para aprender más sobre BOOST, para averiguar si su estudiante califica por una beca y para conectar la aplicación oficial a través del Estado de Maryland.





Athletic Council Volunteer Opportunities

To be eligible for the below positions, the candidate must be 21 years of age or older and have children currently enrolled at Monsignor Slade Catholic School.

Eligible and interested candidates should provide the following information by May 8, 2020, to Mrs. Lauren Williams, Athletic Council President via email at sladeacpresident@gmail.com.

- Full Name
- Email Address
- Phone Number
- Names and grades of children enrolled at Slade
- Provide a written brief, in one page or less, explaining why you are interested in the
- position and why you would be an asset to the Athletic Council at Monsignor Slade Catholic School.

Membership on the Council requires attendance at all regular and special Council meetings and participation in Council activities in general. Any member absent for three consecutive Council meetings will be automatically dropped from membership unless a quorum of voting members present at a meeting overrules this action.

Lacrosse Co-Commissioner

Earns all 12 required service hours each year. The Duties of the Co-Commissioner:

- Administer all aspects of the lacrosse program to ensure its effective and efficient management while adhering to the Slade Athletic Policy, Slade Values Code, Archdiocesan policy, and school policy.
 - Provide for consistency in operation among the individual lacrosse teams where applicable.
 - Participate in Athletic Council meetings.
 - Cast a vote as an active member of the Council.
 - Manage all aspects of the Lacrosse program budget, including the submission of annual budgets to the school administration.
 - While in season, prepare and submit monthly reports regarding the lacrosse program to the Athletic Council.
 - Work with the current Lacrosse Commissioner on program scheduling and fields

Soccer Commissioner

Earns all 12 required service hours each year.

The Duties of the Soccer Commissioner are to:

- Administer all aspects of the soccer program to ensure its effective and efficient
- management while adhering to the Slade Athletic Philosophy and By-laws, Slade
- Values Code, Archdiocesan policy and school policy.
- Provide for consistency in operation among the individual soccer teams where
- applicable.
- Participate in Athletic Council meetings.
- Cast a vote as an active member of the Council.
- Manage all aspects of the Soccer program budget, including the submission of
- annual budgets to the school administration.
- While in season, prepare and submit monthly reports regarding the Soccer
- program to the Athletic Council.
- In case of absence from Council meeting, designate another officer of the Council to
- submit report.

Interested candidates please contact sladeacpresident@gmail.com for more information