

# St. Raphael's Catholic School News

August 7, 2009  
www.srsmn.org

7301 Bass Lake Road  
Crystal, Minnesota 55428  
srsmnewsletter@srsmn.org

## Welcome Back Students and Parents

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**"Growing Together  
in Faith and  
Knowledge"**

Welcome to the 2009-10 school year. Mary Kay and I are very excited that the students will be returning to school soon. The school comes alive when they are here unlike the summer when it is way to quiet.

This past year we worked with the Robbinsdale schools to write a grant. They received the grant and that allowed two of our teachers to be trained on using interactive white boards. However we still needed to purchase the boards for our school in order to take advantage of the grant training. I worked with the Director of Urban Education who is administering the Legacy Grant given to the Archdiocese and was able to receive the funds to purchase the two boards. Additionally another donor came forward to purchase a third interactive white board for the school. We purchased three Smart brand boards and they will be installed in August.

These boards will be in Mrs. Harris, Mrs. Schulz and Mrs. Jones' rooms. Mrs. Schulz and Mrs. Harris received their training through the grant and Mrs. Jones attended the National Educational Computing Conference where she attended many sessions on using the Smart board to enhance instruction. During Welcome Back Night stop in these classrooms and see them in action.

Enjoy the month of August and I will see you on September 1.

God Bless,

Dorothy Bialke  
Principal

### Upcoming Events

September 1  
Welcome Back Night  
4-6:00 pm

September 2  
PreK Orientation for  
4 year old children  
9-11:00 am

September 3  
PreK Orientation for  
3 year olds children

September 8  
1<sup>st</sup> Day of School  
7:30 am

September 10  
PHT Meeting  
7:30pm RM 22

September 15  
3-8 Curriculum Night  
6:00 P.M. - 8:00 P.M.

September 17  
K-2 Curriculum Night  
6:00 P.M. - 7:145P.M.

September 19  
Golf Open  
New Hope Golf Course

## Welcome to St. Raphael's

Fr. Richard Hogan, Pastor of St. Raphael's.

Mr. Nathan Hartwell, Technology Manager

Mr. Michael Reed, Band Director  
\*See note on pg 3

### PreK Orientation

PreK 4 year olds, September 2, 9-11am  
PreK 3 year olds, September 3, 9-11am

Please call the school if you need childcare.

## PHT

PHT is looking for volunteers for Welcome Back Night and Kindergarten lunch the first week of school. Please call Lynn Tupy at 546-6507 if you can help.

Welcome Back Night: We need people to escort new families around the school and work at the sign up tables.

First week kindergarten Help:  
We need one parent to greet the Kindergarteners the first week of school (7:15-7:30am each morning), 2 parents to help in the lunchroom and playground for the first two weeks of school 11:00-11:40am)



## Welcome Back Night September 1 from 4:00-6:00 p.m.

During this event you should plan to do the following:

### Classrooms:

- Meet your child's new teachers
- Drop off school supplies
- Complete paperwork

### School Office:

- Turn in background check forms for new families
- If you have not completed a background check for volunteers please pick up forms.

### Cafeteria:

- Make a deposit in your child(ren)'s lunch account
- Meet Scout Representatives
- Purchase Spirit Wear
- Meet the new Band Director

### Gym:

- Pick up Uniform items from the used Uniform Exchange

### Gym: (Bring your calendar)

#### Conference Sign-up:

Parents of students in grades kindergarten through fourth grade will sign up for both the Fall and Spring Parent-Teacher Conferences.

- Fall Conferences: October 12 and 13 from 2:30-7:30 pm
- Spring Conferences: March 2 and 4 from 2:30-7:30 pm

Middle school teachers will host arena style conferences on the same evenings. This style will allow parents to meet with all the teachers that instruct their children.

#### Playground Sign-up:

Each family should sign up for three days. Time 10:40 am- 11:40 am.

#### PHT Event sign up:

There are many events that need parent volunteers. The amount of time required varies so come to learn more about this active organization.

#### Health Office:

April Hughes, our school health para, will be here if you have health related questions or if you need to drop off medication for your child.

## Curriculum Nights

We have scheduled two different curriculum nights to allow ample time for all grade levels to share with the parents specific details about the curriculum and classroom procedures.

### September 15:

6:00-6:20 - 3rd Grade  
 6:25-6:45 - 4<sup>th</sup> Grade  
 6:50-7:20 All parent info session  
 7:25-7:55- Middle School- Grades 5-8

### September 17:

6:00-6:20- Kindergarten  
 6:25-6:55- All parent info session  
 7:00 - 7:20 1st Grade  
 7:25 -7:45 - 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade

## PHT First Meeting

The first PHT meeting of the year will be on September 10. Please plan on attending in Room 22 at 7:30 pm.

## School Hours

7:15-7:30am Drop off on East side of school  
 7:30am Bell all students enter school from east side  
 7:35am 2<sup>nd</sup> Bell All students in classrooms, prepared for day  
 9:05 - 9:20am Primary Recess  
 10:33 -11:05am Middle School Lunch/recess  
 10:50-11:30am Grades 3 and 4 Lunch/recess  
 11:00 - 11:40am Grades K-2 Lunch/recess  
 2:10 pm Dismissal

\*Playground Duty 10:40 am - 11:40 am  
 Sign up in the school gym on September 19

## Athletic Tryouts

Boys Soccer-September 2<sup>nd</sup> , 2:00-3:30 pm  
Girls Soccer-September 2<sup>nd</sup> , 3:30- 5:00 pm  
Girls Volleyball- September 3<sup>rd</sup> , 2:00-4:00 pm

## School Supplies:

The school supply list was included with your tuition statement. You can also access this list online and at local area Target stores.

## Parent/Student Handbooks

This summer our Parent/Student Handbook has been updated. Please pick up one copy from your youngest/only child's teacher on Welcome Back Night.

Please read through the handbook, review the contents with your child(ren). Please sign and have all of your children sign the agreement form and send this to school with your child on the first day of school.

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## Volunteer Requirements

St. Raphael's School follows the guidelines of the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis in regards to volunteers. All adults who will be working with minors must complete three requirements; a one time background check, and Virtus training, and a yearly volunteer code of conduct form.

If you have not completed a background check, forms are available at the school office. All volunteers must attend one Virtus training session

**Virtus Training Sessions at St. Raphael's are scheduled for August 24, 6:30 - 9:30 pm and October 5, 6:30 - 9:30 pm. If you cannot attend one at St. Raphael's you may attend at another Catholic Church. Register at [virus.org](http://virus.org)**

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## String Instrument Program

Schmidt Music would like to offer a string instrument program here at St. Raphael. This program would be run similar to our band program where a Schmidt instructor spends a day here giving small group/individual lessons and a larger group experience.

To begin this program we would need to have ten students committed to participating in the string program. If you are interested please contact Mrs. Bialke to let her know. If we have enough interest we will be able to start the program in September.

## A Note from Michael Reed, Band Director

Michael Reed is originally from New Hope, MN, and is an alumnus of Cooper High School. Michael attended St. Raphael's for his CCD education, and was baptized at St. Raphael's as well. His parents and grandparents have been lifelong parish members; his father even attended grade school at St. Raphael's! (continue on right)

In 2001, Michael graduated from Augsburg with his Bachelor's Degree in Music Education. Michael comes to St. Raphael via a band director position at Milaca High School, Harding High School in St. Paul, and most recently Coon Rapids High School where he led the Marching Band to the Class A State Marching Band Championship. Michael is an active clinician in the marching arts, working with many local marching bands and winter drumlines. He has performed with many area ensembles including the Glassmen from Toledo, Ohio, the Minnesota Brass, the Lake Wobegon Brass Band, and the Minnesota Symphonic Winds. Michael is currently on the music staff of the Minnesota Brass Drum and Bugle Corps.

Michael and his wife Lea reside in Minneapolis and are expecting their first child.

"I am excited to join the staff at St. Raphael's, and to build the band program to a level of excellence. I am looking forward to working with all of the students and staff at St. Raphael's. and giving back to a school and parish that has been part of my family for many years."

## Buying New Shoes for School?

When buying new shoes and boots for the school year, please keep in mind to purchase non-marking soles. It helps keep our school and gym floors free from black shoe marks.



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## New School Uniforms and Uniform Exchange

We will not be hosting a new uniform fitting at the school this summer. Our uniform company will be offering a 20% discount for all orders placed on their website. Please see the attached flyer.

The used uniform exchange will be held on Welcome Back Night in the gym. We want to remind you that you do not need to bring in items in order to pick up uniform pieces. Please just come and take the items that your children need. We are accepting items anytime in August. If you want to drop them off at the school, please feel free to do so.