

Activities, Data & eSchool Blog

By Laurie Wojtaszczyk

Table of Contents can be found in the left side column when you turn on the Document Summary. You may search by date, click on it in that column, and it will take you to the update you are looking for. Use "Control F" to search this document by word/topic.



2024-2025 School Year

June 17

eSchool

In order for eSchool to set up your school year 2025-2026, please fill out the [eSD School Setup Form](#) and return it to them no later than June 30th. If you have already submitted your form, thank you.

eSchool does not charge when you enter your PK students into their system. They can and should be rostered just like any other HR class. This will in turn sync them with the STAR system for those of you who want to test them there. The only thing different from rostering PK as opposed to other classes is they need to be excluded from state attendance and reporting. [Here is a worksheet I created](#) to show you how to do that as a batch change.

STAR

Our next STAR Champion meeting is tomorrow, Wed. 6/18 from 12pm-1:30pm. We know this is a busy time with the final days of schools, but we look forward to seeing anyone who is available. We will be discussing how we managed regarding our goals this year.

I wish you all a very happy and relaxing summer!

June 10

eSchool

If your school has any students that will not be advancing to the next grade, either through retention or extra advancement, please notify me ASAP so I can update the records for eSchool. Grade advancement will happen between July 7-18 (our date has not been set yet).

STAR

Our next STAR Champion meeting needed to be rescheduled from Wed. 6/11 to Tue. 6/17. Still at Noon. Sorry for the last minute change but we want to have the best information available for you at this meeting.

June 3

eSchool

I am now able to pull NYSSIS IDs out for all students, so if you are in need of them for Buffalo Public School lunch paperwork, or any other needs, please let me know and I'll send you a report. I'll even tell you how you can pull the IDs yourself if you wish.

STAR

We are in the final days of the STAR window right now. Please make sure your teachers are completing their testing by Friday, June 6th.

May 28

STAR

As the 2024-2025 school year ends, Renaissance wants to help make the transition as smooth as possible. They've curated a few end-of-year action items and resources for all Renaissance products that will help you:

- [Generate and save/print reports](#) for the current school year Star Assessments (see page 8)
- Set up [summer school](#) and view the summer school implementation resources
- Plan and schedule professional learning and attend [How-to Webinars](#) on demand
- [Visit the end-of-year website for more information](#)

eSchool

Do you have questions about eSchool? They have created a wonderful [informational webpage](#) with great resources and continue to add to it all the time. I use it myself to answer your questions sometimes, so I thought I'd share [this fantastic resource](#) with you.

May 20

STAR/Renaissance

The final STAR Testing window is May 19 - June 6.

Virtue/Character Awards

If any students can not attend the Award Ceremony on Tuesday, May 28th, we will get their certificates to their school. Thank you for submitting your student names and participating in this ceremony.

May 13

Diocesan Art Show

The Diocesan Art Show is happening this week at [Notre Dame Academy, 260 Okell Street](#) in South Buffalo. Many of our schools will be exhibiting artwork from their students. It is open to the public May 14-15th from 6-8pm.

Schools showcasing their work:

- Catholic Academy of West Buffalo
- Chesterton Academy of Buffalo
- Christ the King
- DeSales Catholic School
- Immaculate Conception School EA
- Nativity Of Our Lord
- Notre Dame Academy
- Our Lady of Victory
- Southtowns Catholic School
- St. Amelia
- St. Benedict School
- St. Christopher School
- St. John the Baptist, Alden
- St. John Vianney
- St. Mary Elementary Lancaster
- St. Mary School Swormville
- St. Peter and Paul Williamsville
- St. Stephen School

Award Ceremony

Principals at schools who participated in our Virtue/Character Trait program this year should have received a listing of their students and an invitation to forward to those families. The families must RSVP to our office no later than 5/20. Please let me know if you didn't receive the email from me or were missing any students in the listing.

STAR/Renaissance

The final STAR Testing window is May 19 - June 6.

May 6

eSchool

Just a few quick reminders as we are preparing for the end of the year, transfer students, and new registrations:

1. Remember to add the local school district for all new students to your school.
2. Mark all PK students as: Exclude From State Reporting and Exclude From State Attendance
3. All transfer students MUST use code 170 no matter the reason or where they are going.

STAR/Renaissance

The final STAR Testing window is May 19 - June 6. You can always view the testing schedule in your STAR program by:

1. Clicking on your Initials in the upper right corner
2. Clicking on Manage apps and users
3. Clicking on School Calendar
4. Clicking on Screening Windows

You will see something that looks like this:

The screenshot shows the 'Screening Windows' tab in the STAR/Renaissance interface. At the top, there are tabs for 'School Years', 'Marking Periods', 'Days Off', and 'Screening Windows'. Below the tabs, a message states: 'Use screening windows to report on Star tests taken during a specific date range.' To the right of this message is a 'View History' link. Under the heading 'District Screening Windows', there is a note: 'District screening windows are used for district-level reporting.' and a 'Create District Screening Window' button. Below this is a table with three rows representing different screening windows:

Screening Window	Schools Assigned	Actions
Fall – 9/6/2024 - 9/27/2024	33 schools assigned	Edit ▼
Winter – 1/6/2025 - 1/24/2025	33 schools assigned	Edit ▼
Spring – 5/19/2025 - 6/6/2025	33 schools assigned	Edit ▼

April 29

Summer Programs

If your schools will be offering any Summer Camps or programs, please send your information to me and I will get them up on our website. Thank you to those who have already shared this information with me.

STAR/Renaissance

There have been a couple changes with Renaissance. Our new main consultant is [James Cooper](#) and our new Customer Success Manager is [Tim Schmidt](#). However, I am still your first line of defense for anything STAR/Renaissance related.

eSchool

- Answer sheet ordering is now open. [Here is a link to the instructions](#). **Please do not request large amounts of blanks.** Pre-printed Regents answer sheets can be requested right up until the time of the assessments.
 -
- The Regents vendor scoring section is also open. [Here is a link to the instructions](#) for doing that.

If you are having any issues ordering Regents answer sheets, please look up the correct codes [on this page](#). If you need to change a code in your eSchool, it will take an overnight processing before you can order the answer sheets. You can place your order the day after making any changes.

Support During Operational CBT Testing

During operational CBT, schools should be contacting their Regional Information Center (RIC) and Big 5 City School District testing departments as a first step if they need help with testing. The regional testing departments will be able to advise if you need to contact NWEA or NYSED as a next step.

- Email: cbt@e1b.org – for technical help during testing
- Email: testscoring@e1b.org – for data help including adding or moving students in Nextera

April 22

STAR updates

- **END OF THE SCHOOL YEAR:**
eSchool CDI will stop updating your Renaissance site the day before the last day of school. You may continue using your Renaissance site with CDI disabled. Please take a minute to view Renaissance's tips on [end of year activities](#), so you can be certain you've gathered any end of year reports you may need. You may want to archive a set of testing results before the school year rolls over.
- **SUMMER SCHOOL:**
Since Renaissance can be used for summer testing, [directions for manual summer school setup can be found here](#).
- **25-26 NEW YEAR ROLLOVER:**
The process to update your Renaissance site for the 25-26 school year will begin two weeks prior to the start date you provided us. Your SIS data will be reviewed nightly, and as soon as adequate data is available, your Renaissance site will be rolled over to the new school year.

April 8

eSchool

It's time to set your school calendar for the 2025-2026 school year. Please [use this link](#) provided by eSchool to adjust your calendar. It must be done on the individual school level, this is not something I can do for you. You do not need to have start/end dates for the school year yet or specific bell times. As soon as the school setup is done, you may begin scheduling for next year.

Here is a copy of the [eSD April newsletter](#) with many tips and information for your schools. If you need to be added to their mailing list, please [send an email here](#) and request to be added.

STAR

For our schools who ordered Freckle or Lalilo, please note that they are now bundled. Per James, our new rep, you only pay for one of them and get the other at no charge.

Summer Programs

If your schools will be offering any Summer Camps or programs, please send your information to me and I will get them up on our website. Thank you to those who have already shared this information with me.

April 1

Science Fair

Thank you to all of our students who came and showed off their Science Fair projects. I have created a [Google photo album](#) showing all of the projects.

Art Show

The 35th Annual Diocesan Art Exhibition will be held at Notre Dame Academy, 260 Okell St, Buffalo. All schools are welcome to attend. You can find more information and sign up [through this link](#). Your school must register by April 18th, however early registration is highly encouraged. We currently have 11 elementary schools and 1 high school signed up - thank you!

Summer Programs

If your schools will be offering any Summer Camps or programs, please send your information to me and I will get them up on our website.

eSchool

You should have received an invoice entitled Participation Projections from Erie 1 Boces. There are a couple of new line-items listed this year. Please contact me if you have any questions regarding them.

STAR

All STAR invoices have been set to September 1, 2025 for this coming school year. We did 1 year quotes. I have placed the quotes into your elementary school folders under Academic Excellence and then STAR Invoices for the 2025-2026 school year.

There have been a couple changes with Renaissance, and our new consultant is [James Cooper](#). He replaces Jenn Brown. However, I am still your first line of defense for anything STAR/Renaissance related.

March 25

STAR

It's time for the STAR quotes to be completed for the next 2 year cycle of our programming. Our STAR Essentials is now becoming STAR Comprehensive which will include all of the following:

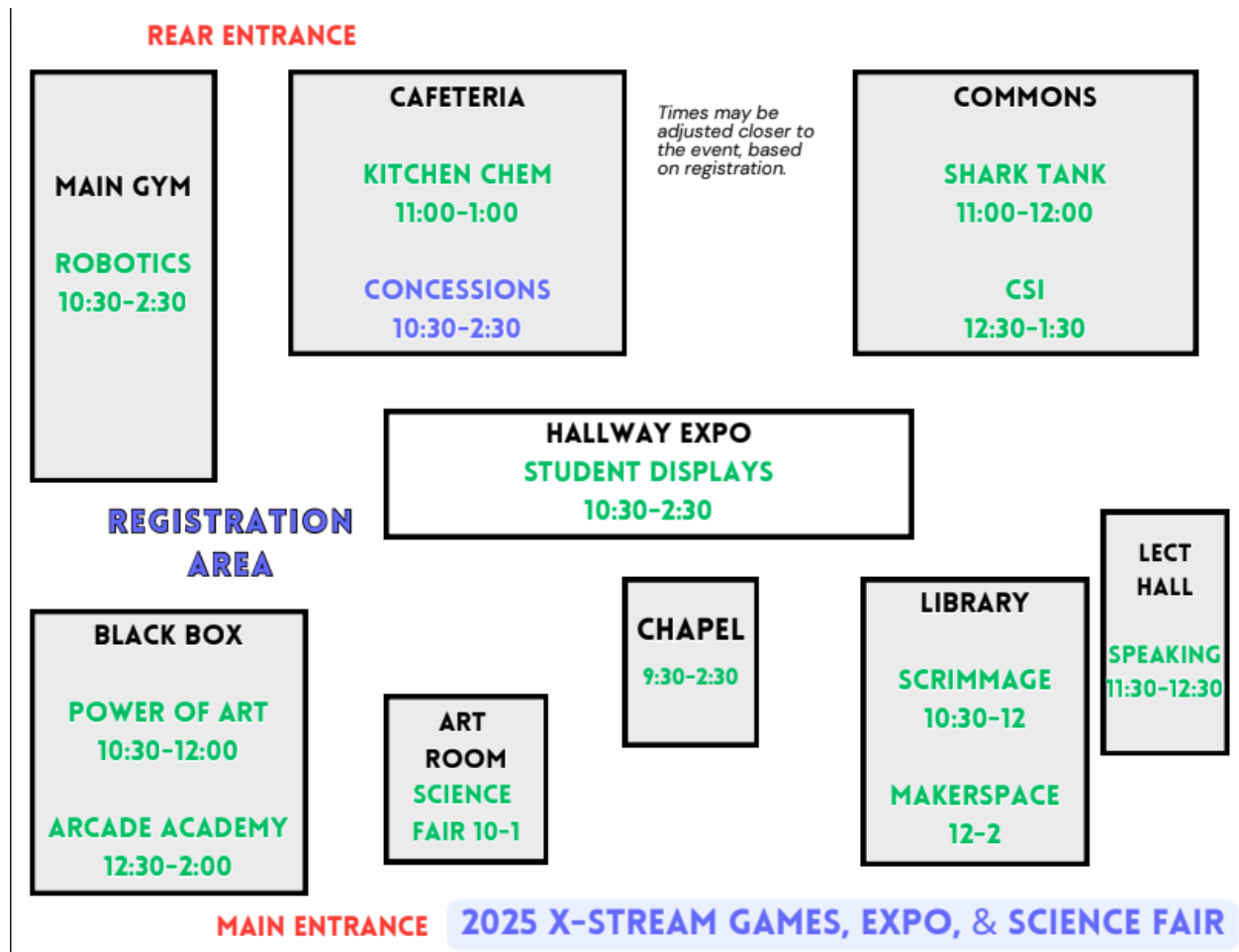
- STAR Reading
- STAR Reading CBM
- STAR Math
- STAR Math CBM
- STAR Early Literacy
- STAR Custom
- STAR Spanish
- STAR CBM Lectura

If you use Freckle and Laleio those will have separate quotes sent out shortly.

SCIENCE FAIR

Our Science Fair will be held this Saturday as part of the X-STREAM Games & Expo at St. Joseph's Collegiate, 845 Kenmore Ave., Buffalo

Participant Set-Up: 8:30-10am in the Art Room - If you only need a few minutes to set up, you are welcome to come closer to 10am. Those who need more set-up time I am happy to welcome you into the Art room starting at 8:30am.



Discussion Session & photos of projects with students: 10am-1pm broken down by categories as follows:

- Life Science 10am-10:30am
- Earth & Space Science 10:30am-11am
- Engineering 11:45am-12:15pm
- Physical Science 12:15-1pm

Students will need to be with their projects during the allotted time for their specific category. They may leave once I have had a chance to come and discuss their project with them. They are welcome to walk around the X-STREAM Games or participate in other events as well. If the student is needed in another X-STREAM event area during the assigned discussion time, I am happy to set a separate time with them to discuss their project.

Please note that we may have tables in the hallway or a classroom next to the art room if we need additional space for all of the Science Fair projects. That will be communicated Saturday morning with signage in the area.

I look forward to seeing all of our young scientists on Saturday!

March 18

FRIDAY IS THE LAST DAY TO REGISTER for the Science Fair Exhibition - St. Joseph's

Collegiate institute, March 29, 2025

Participant Set-Up: 8:30-10am in the Art Room

Discussion Session & photos of projects with students: 10am-12pm

- Life Science 10-10:30am
- Physical Science 10:30-11:30am
- Engineering 11:30am-12pm

Students will need to be with their projects until I have had a chance to come and discuss their project with them. They are welcome to walk around the X-STREAM Games or participate in other events as well. If the student is needed in another X-STREAM event area during the assigned discussion time, I am happy to set a separate time with them to discuss their project.

Art Show - Notre Dame Academy, May 13-15, 2025

The 35th Annual Diocesan Art Exhibition will be held at Notre Dame Academy, 260 Okell St, Buffalo. All schools are welcome to attend. You can find more information and sign up [through this link](#) or scan the QR code on the attached information sheet. Your school must register by April 18th, however early registration is highly encouraged.

March 13

ONE WEEK LEFT TO REGISTER for the Science Fair - St. Joseph's Collegiate institute, March 29, 2025

Parents should [read this helpful rule guide first](#), and then feel free to [sign up their Scientists](#) as early as possible **before March 21st**. We need a minimum of 10 Scientists in a category to hold the judging for that category. **If less than 10 sign up for a category then that category will be an exhibition of experiments.** We currently only have 5 total students signed up over 2 different categories. Please get those registrations in as early as possible.

The four categories are:

- **Life Science** (all animal, plant and human body experiments)
- **Physical Science** (matter and structure, electricity, magnetism, sound, light, or anything else that shows how something works)
- **Earth and Space Sciences** (weather, Geology, space)
- **Engineering** (applying scientific principles to manufacturing and practical uses in mechanical, chemical, electrical, photographic, sound or environmental engineering, etc.)

Art Show - Notre Dame Academy, May 13-15, 2025

[The 35th Annual Diocesan Art Exhibition](#) will be held at Notre Dame Academy, 260 Okell St, Buffalo. All schools are welcome to attend. You can find more information and sign up [through this link](#) or scan the QR code on the attached information sheet. Your school must register by April 18th, however early registration is highly encouraged.

March 4

Science Fair - St. Joseph's Collegiate institute, March 29, 2025

Parents should [read this helpful rule guide first](#), and then feel free to [sign up their Scientists](#) as early as possible **before March 21st**. We need a minimum of 10 Scientists in a category to hold the judging for that category. **If less than 10 sign up for a category then that category will be an exhibition of experiments.** We currently only have 5 total students signed up over 2 different categories. Please get those registrations in as early as possible.

The four categories are:

- **Life Science** (all animal, plant and human body experiments)
- **Physical Science** (matter and structure, electricity, magnetism, sound, light, or anything else that shows how something works)
- **Earth and Space Sciences** (weather, Geology, space)
- **Engineering** (applying scientific principles to manufacturing and practical uses in mechanical, chemical, electrical, photographic, sound or environmental engineering, etc.)

Art Show - Notre Dame Academy, May 13-15, 2025

[The 35th Annual Diocesan Art Exhibition](#) will be held at Notre Dame Academy, 260 Okell St, Buffalo. All schools are welcome to attend. You can find more information and sign up [through this link](#) or scan the QR code on the attached information sheet. Your school must register by April 18th, however early registration is highly encouraged.

TEENAGERS – YOU'RE INVITED . . .

Young people in grades 8-12 are invited to No Matter WHAT: A Day for Catholic Teens on Sunday, March 30th from 12-5:30pm at Hilbert College in Hamburg! (5200 South Park Ave., Hamburg) Gather with teenagers from across the Diocese of Buffalo for an interactive day with national speaker Paul J. Kim! The day concludes with Mass with Bishop Michael Fisher. The cost is \$25 and includes lunch. For more information or to register, [click this link](#) or scan the QR code below. This will be an experience you won't want to miss! Pre-registration is required by March 17, 2025.



February 25

Job Postings

Please remember to send all job postings to [Lindsay Gibson](#). She handles all postings for the Diocese, including our schools. You can view all available postings [at this website](#).

TEENAGERS – YOU'RE INVITED . . .

Young people in grades 8-12 are invited to No Matter WHAT: A Day for Catholic Teens on Sunday, March 30th from 12-5:30pm at Hilbert College in Hamburg! (5200 South Park Ave., Hamburg) Gather with teenagers from across the Diocese of Buffalo for an interactive day with national speaker Paul J. Kim! The day concludes with Mass with Bishop Michael Fisher. The cost is \$25 and includes lunch. For more information or to register, [click this link](#) or scan the QR code below. This will be an experience you won't want to miss! Pre-registration is required by March 17, 2025.



eSchool and STAR

I have recently verified that eSchool does not charge when you enter your PK students into their system. They can and should be rostered just like any other HR class. This will in turn sync them with the STAR system for those of you who want to test them there. The only thing different from rostering PK as opposed to other classes is they need to be excluded from state attendance and reporting. [Here is a worksheet I created](#) to show you how to do that as a batch change. Please let me know if you have any questions on how to go about making this change

or adding PK to your rostered classes. I will be creating a one page document outlining how PK should be rostered to show the difference in eSchool for half day and full day students as well as Kindergarten Readiness programs.

If you have not seen the [February eSD newsletter, you can see it here](#). Hopefully your eSD reps should be receiving it starting in March if they were not receiving it previously. There are also monthly calls for your eSD reps to get on to learn about updates, ask questions, etc.

Science Fair - St. Joseph's Collegiate institute, March 29, 2025

Parents should [read this helpful rule guide first](#), and then feel free to [sign up their Scientists](#) as early as possible **before March 21st**. We need a minimum of 10 Scientists in a category to hold the judging for that category. **If less than 10 sign up for a category then that category will be an exhibition of experiments.** We currently only have 5 total students signed up over 2 different categories. Please get those registrations in as early as possible.

The four categories are:

- **Life Science** (all animal, plant and human body experiments)
- **Physical Science** (matter and structure, electricity, magnetism, sound, light, or anything else that shows how something works)
- **Earth and Space Sciences** (weather, Geology, space)
- **Engineering** (applying scientific principles to manufacturing and practical uses in mechanical, chemical, electrical, photographic, sound or environmental engineering, etc.)

Art Show - Notre Dame Academy, May 13-15, 2025

[The 35th Annual Diocesan Art Exhibition](#) will be held at Notre Dame Academy, 260 Okell St, Buffalo. All schools are welcome to attend. You can find more information and sign up [through this link](#) or scan the QR code on the attached information sheet. Your school must register by April 18th, however early registration is highly encouraged.

February 11

Art Show - Notre Dame Academy, May 13-15, 2025

[The 35th Annual Diocesan Art Exhibition](#) will be held at Notre Dame Academy, 260 Okell St, Buffalo. All schools are welcome to attend. You can find more information and sign up [through this link](#) or scan the QR code on the attached information sheet. Your school must register by April 18th, however early registration is highly encouraged.

Spelling Bee

We held our Spelling Bee last evening at Mt. St. Mary's Academy. Congratulations to all of the students who participated.

Our winners were:

1st Place- Colleen B. from St. Gregory the Great

2nd Place- Madeleine K from St. Gregory the Great

3rd Place- Aubrey O'Connor from Notre Dame Academy

Science Fair - St. Joseph Collegiate, March 29, 2025

Parents please [read this helpful rule guide first](#) and then feel free to [sign up your Scientist](#) anytime before March 21st. You can see the [flyer](#) here.

February 4

Art Show - Notre Dame Academy, May 13-15

[The 35th Annual Diocesan Art Exhibition](#) will be held at Notre Dame Academy, 260 Okell St, Buffalo. All schools are welcome to attend. You can find more information and sign up [through this link](#) or scan the QR code on the attached information sheet. Your school must register by April 18th, however early registration is highly encouraged.



**35th Annual
Diocesan Art Exhibition**

Please Join Us!

Opening & Reception
Located in parish center
Tuesday, May 13th - 6:00 to 8:00 pm

Exhibition Times
Wednesday, May 14th - 6:00 to 8:00 pm
Thursday, May 15th - 6:00 to 8:00 pm

Notre Dame Academy
260 Okell St
Buffalo, NY 14220



www.notredamebuffalo.org/art



35th Annual Diocesan Art Exhibition

Please Join Us!

Opening & Reception
Located in parish center
Tuesday, May 13th - 6:00 to 8:00 pm

Exhibition Times
Wednesday, May 14th - 6:00 to 8:00 pm
Thursday, May 15th - 6:00 to 8:00 pm

Entry Guidelines:

- Each school is invited to submit up to 15 pieces of original student art and 2 free standing pieces of original student art for a total of 17 pieces per school.
- Each school is asked to include a \$50 entrance fee with the online registration form by Friday, April 18th. Early registration is strongly encouraged.
- Each school will receive 17 ribbons and certificates at the time of installation.
- There will be one table in the gym of the school for the display of 3-D artwork. Please bring any necessary display items such as table easels or pillars.
- Each art teacher is responsible for hanging their students' artwork. Only blue painter's tape will be allowed on walls. Installation time is available on Monday, May 12th from 2:30 pm - 5:30 pm. Mrs. Meidenbauer and Ms. Taylor will be available to assist.
- Artwork must be removed Friday, May 16th and Monday, May 19th between 12:00 & 3:00 pm.
- Each school will receive promotional materials to be displayed in school, emailed to parents, posted on school social media and the school website.

 **Notre Dame Academy**
260 Okell St
Buffalo, NY 14220

Scan the QR Code to register or visit the link: www.notredamebuffalo.org/art

This event is endorsed by the Department of Catholic Schools, and is a great opportunity to promote our Catholic Schools and support our wonderful art programs. All participants will receive certificate and ribbons. Please direct all questions and inquiries to emaidenbauer@notredamebuffalo.org



Chess

Thank you to all of our students who attended this year's Chess Tournament! We had over 80 students from 16 of our schools.

We send heartfelt congratulations to this year's winners:

1st Place - Caiden S. - St. John the Baptist, Kenmore

2nd Place - Rory S. - St. Christopher, Tonawanda

Spelling Bee

This year's Spelling Bee has been rescheduled to Mon. Feb. 10th. We will still begin at 6pm at Mt. St. Mary's Academy. Thank you for understanding the need to postpone from 1/27/25 due to the winter storm advisory.

Science Fair

Parents please [read this helpful rule guide first](#) and then feel free to [sign up your Scientist](#) anytime before March 21st.

January 28

Chess Tournament

Good luck to all those participating.

Science Fair

Parents please [read this helpful rule guide first](#), and then feel free to [sign up your Scientist](#) anytime before March 21st.

January 21

Chess Tournament

Here is the [registration form](#) for the Chess Tournament. [Schools should register](#) all of their students by Jan. 24th.

Science Fair

Parents please [read this helpful rule guide first](#), and then feel free to [sign up your Scientist](#) anytime before March 21st.

January 14

All schools should have received information directly from Catholic Charities regarding this year's challenge among the schools. If your school is participating, please remember to reply to them before the January 17th deadline.

Spelling Bee

You can [sign your school up](#) for the spelling bee [using this link](#) by Jan. 17th.

Chess Tournament

Here is the [registration form](#) for the Chess Tournament. [Schools should register](#) all of their students by Jan. 24th.

Science Fair

Parents should [read this helpful rule guide first](#), and then feel free to [sign up their Scientists](#) anytime before March 21st. We need a minimum of 10 Scientists in a category to hold the judging for that category. If less than 10 sign up that category will be an exhibition of experiments. The four categories are:

- **Life Science** (all animal, plant and human body experiments)
- **Physical Science** (matter and structure, electricity, magnetism, sound, light, or anything else that shows how something works)
- **Earth and Space Sciences** (weather, Geology, space)
- **Engineering** (applying scientific principles to manufacturing and practical uses in mechanical, chemical, electrical, photographic, sound or environmental engineering, etc.)

January 7

Welcome back! I hope you all enjoyed some wonderful times with family and friends, plus found time to relax and rejuvenate. I wish you a very happy and healthy 2025.

STAR Testing

Our Winter window is now open. It runs from January 6th-24th. Good luck with testing!

Spelling Bee

You can sign your school up for the spelling bee [using this link](#) by Jan. 17th.

Chess Tournament

Here is the [registration form](#) for the Chess Tournament. [Schools should register](#) all of their students by Jan. 24th.

Science Fair

It's time for our elementary scientists to start planning their experiments, and [this is an excellent tool](#) to assist them with ideas and the Scientific Process! The Science Fair will be held again this year during the X-STREAM Games on March 29th at St. Joseph's Collegiate. Parents should [read this helpful rule guide first](#), and then feel free to [sign up their Scientists](#) anytime before March 21st. We need a minimum of 10 Scientists in a category to hold the judging for that category. If less than 10 sign up that category will be an exhibition of experiments. The four categories are:

- **Life Science** (all animal, plant and human body experiments)
- **Physical Science** (matter and structure, electricity, magnetism, sound, light, or anything else that shows how something works)
- **Earth and Space Sciences** (weather, Geology, space)
- **Engineering** (applying scientific principles to manufacturing and practical uses in mechanical, chemical, electrical, photographic, sound or environmental engineering, etc.)

Erie 1 Boces

Here are some resources from E1B regarding Nextera testing: Nextera has been loaded. You can go into the system and adjust your students for the simulation. Here is the direct link to the [Simulation Guide](#). Here is the link to the [Simulation Checklist](#).

December 17

STAR Testing

Please make sure you are reaching out to me with questions or issues, and not reaching out to Jenn Brown. I am your first line of defense to answer your questions and resolve issues. If I can't help you, then I forward it off to support for guidance. Thank you.

eSchool Coordinators

Recently Renaissance/eSchool held a presentation regarding updates that are coming to eSchool. Most of it is not pertinent to our schools, but there are a few enhancements to attendance and bell systems you may find useful. If you're interested in what is being updated you can view a powerpoint about it [here](#).

Spelling Bee

You can sign your school up for the spelling bee anytime by emailing me your interest and get the names of your spellers to me at a later date. If you already know your speller names, [please register using this link](#) by Jan. 17th.

Chess Tournament

Here is the [registration form](#) for the Chess Tournament. [Schools should register](#) all of their students by Jan. 24th.

Science Fair

It's time for our elementary scientists to start planning their experiments, and [this is an excellent tool](#) to assist them with ideas and the Scientific Process! The Science Fair will be held again this year during the X-STREAM Games on March 29th at St. Joseph's Collegiate. Parents should [read this helpful rule guide first](#), and then feel free to [sign up their Scientists](#) anytime before March 21st. We need a minimum of 10 Scientists in a category to hold the judging for that category. If less than 10 sign up that category will be an exhibition of experiments. The four categories are:

- **Life Science** (all animal, plant and human body experiments)
- **Physical Science** (matter and structure, electricity, magnetism, sound, light, or anything else that shows how something works)
- **Earth and Space Sciences** (weather, Geology, space)
- **Engineering** (applying scientific principles to manufacturing and practical uses in mechanical, chemical, electrical, photographic, sound or environmental engineering, etc.)

December 10

Safe Environment/Virtus

Please be advised that the Diocese of Buffalo has revised the Uniform Release for New Employees, and its use is **effective immediately**. Please remove any Uniform Release forms you have in circulation and replace them with the new form [here](#). If you are a local Safe Environment Coordinator, the form will still be found in Virtus under the My Diocese tab > My Forms > View custom forms.

STAR Testing

Please be aware our STAR testing window will be open quickly after returning from the Christmas holiday break. Now is the time to work out any issues that may have popped up with students and rosters so you're ready to go when you return in January.

Chess Tournament

The Chess Tournament will be on Saturday, February 1st. [Sign-ups](#) must be completed by January 24th. The event will be held at Cardinal O'Hara High School and begins at 10am. I expect the final games to run until at least 1pm based on last year. As we have done in the past, beginners and intermediate players (who chose this option) will play round robin style against any available player as a way to improve their skills and hone their moves with practice games. Our intermediate (who chose this option) and expert players will play round robin style at first and then be placed in a bracket system until we crown the champion. The top two players will play a best of 3 format, with each playing white once and a random draw for the 3rd game if necessary. We hope to have a snack bar available as we did last year. We need a minimum of 25 players to make this event possible - so please share this information with all of your chess loving students today. Some great websites for chess are [Chesskid.com](https://www.chesskid.com) and [Chess.com](https://www.chess.com). We based our levels as follows: beginner <800-1099, intermediate 1100-1699, expert >1700. I have attached a flyer and basic rule information [here](#).

December 3

Here are the annual nomination forms from The Foundation of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Buffalo for the [Natalie Mattimore Lewis Kindness Counts Character Award](#) and [The Tim Russert Creative Scholarship for Writing Award](#) and [The Joseph S. Fanara Scholarship for Music Enrichment](#). Additional details and qualifications for each are included in the links.

All three awards will be presented during the Catholic Education Dinner on Wednesday, February 5th at The Buffalo Convention Center. The deadline for all submissions is **Friday, December 20th, 2024**.

All nominations must come from the Principal or School Faculty. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Laura DeMizio directly at 716-847-8373.

November 26

Math Competition

We held our Annual Diocesan Math Competition on Friday, November 22. We had 200 students from 14 schools participating.

Grades 3-5 Individual Winners:

1st - Christianna W., St. Gregory the Great

2nd - Eric K., Queen of Heaven

3rd - Gianna F., St. Gregory the Great

Grades 3-5 Team Winners:

1st - St. Gregory the Great, Team 1

2nd - Queen of Heaven, Tigers

3rd - DeSales, The Numerators

Grades 6-8 Individual Winners:

1st - Eva S., SS. Peter & Paul Hamburg

2nd - Amelia C., Queen of Heaven

3rd - Dominic F., Queen of Heaven

Grades 6-8 Team Winners:

1st - St. Gregory the Great, Team 2

2nd - Queen of Heaven, Eagles

3rd - Nativity of Our Lord, Team 2

Grades 6-8 Knockout Champion:

Lily B., St. Mary Swormville

A photo album has been created on [Amazon Photos](#) for you to view.

November 19**Math Competition**

Our competition is this Friday. Good luck to all of our participants.

Students are asked to wear their school uniform or spirit wear. They may bring a water bottle with them.

Schools are asked to bring calculators and pencils with them for each student. The Diocese does not have calculators available for use.

For the 3-5th graders, please arrive by 9am with the Competition starting promptly at 9:30am.

For the 6-8th graders, please arrive by 11am with the Competition starting promptly at 11:30am.

If your students are staying all day, please have them bring a lunch and drink with them. There are no vending machines available.

Spelling Bee

It's never too early to sign up for the Annual Spelling Bee! You can sign your school up and get the names of your winners to me at a later date. Once you have your student names you can register [here](#) by Jan. 17th. Find out more information [here](#). Each school may register their top 3 spellers, no matter what grade they are in. Students are asked to wear their uniforms to this event. Check out this [flyer](#) to share with parents.

November 12****IMPORTANT IMMEDIATE CHANGE****

eSchool has changed the eSchoolData Parent Portal link. Parents must use [this link](#) to log in going forward: <https://parentportal.eschooldata.com/buffalodiocese>

BEDS

If you have submitted your [BEDS Report](#) via [Business Portal IRS-Data Exchange](#), please email the date it was submitted for our records. If you did not fill out your Google Sheet but already submitted your report to NYSED, please send me a copy of your submission and I will enter the

information for you. Thank you for however you get this important information to our department. The due date to NYSED and our department is Nov. 15th.

Math Competition

Please make sure you [email](#) your Sprint Round answer sheets to me by 3pm Wed., Nov. 13th. If you would like last year's tests to practice from, you can download them [HERE](#).

Spelling Bee

It's never too early to sign up for the Annual Spelling Bee! You can sign your school up and get the names of your winners to me at a later date.

We will be holding the Diocesan Spelling Bee on Monday, January 27th at Mount St. Mary's High School. I have put this year's study guides into a [Google Folder you can all access here](#).

There are study guides by grade level or lists you can use for a school wide Bee. A great resource to share with parents is [this study list](#). I would give the grades their [individual spelling lists](#) to study, but make the [Overall Spelling Study List](#) available to anyone who wants it.

STAR Testing

The following is from Renaissance:

We are excited to announce we are enhancing the Star CBM extract that you currently receive with some additional fields. This update will be available to you December 14th.

- What is changing?

Values for the Overall Risk Score for CBM Reading measures by season are being added. The [overall risk score](#) is calculated per season based on specific measures per grade level. The activities that make up the overall risk score will have values; other activities will have blank values.

A field for the assessment status (active or deactivated) is being added.

Full column definitions can be found [here](#).

- Will these values populate for previously taken assessments?

Yes, these fields will populate for assessments taken in the current academic year.

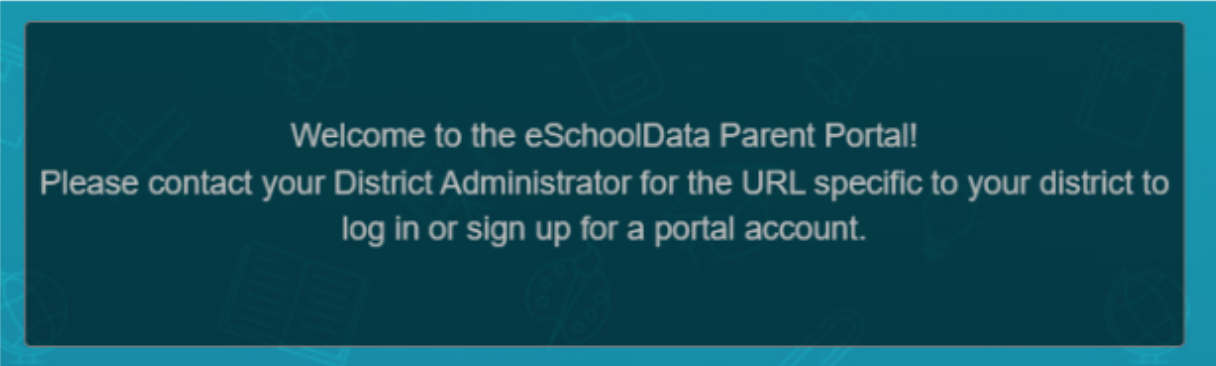
November 5

****IMPORTANT IMMEDIATE CHANGE****

eSchool has changed the eSchoolData Parent Portal link. Parents must use [this link](#) to log in going forward:

<https://parentportal.eschooldata.com/buffalodiocese>

If they log in through the old link they will get the following error message:



Welcome to the eSchoolData Parent Portal!
Please contact your District Administrator for the URL specific to your district to
log in or sign up for a portal account.

BEDS

If you have submitted your [BEDS Report](#) via [Business Portal IRS-Data Exchange](#), please email the date it was submitted for our records. If you did not fill out your Google Sheet but already submitted your report to NYSED, please send me a copy of your submission and I will enter the information for you. Thank you for however you get this important information to our department. The due date to NYSED and our department is Nov. 15th.

NYS Testing Orders

A few reminders from eSchool regarding test ordering:

- Make sure to select a Lead Scoring Entity for each grade and subject matter.
- Make sure that you order Science grade 5 and 8 tests.
- Make sure you are ordering test read versions only for students who have IEPs and 504 plans that specify it.
- Revisions can be made to orders all the way up to November 8th, the deadline date.

You can order your NYS tests [HERE](#).

You can find detailed instructions on how to order your NYS testing [HERE](#).

You can find detailed information about the Spring testing [HERE](#).

If you are looking for information regarding the Elementary Science Investigations you can read [this memo](#) that explains it very well. Here is an [FAQ](#) about the Science testing as well.

Requesting Digital Copies of the Science Investigations: The Investigations will be made available to schools as digital copies only. Principals will be able to access and download the files using the exam ordering portal through which they make exam requests. Digital copies of the Student Directions and Student Answer Packets in alternate languages and hard copies in Unified English Braille may be requested by contacting the Office of State Assessment at emscassessinfo@nysed.gov.

For the schools who have ELLs, please read [this memo](#) regarding testing and storing the NYSESLAT tests.

Math Competition

Thank you to all of the schools who signed up for the Math competition! We have a total of 18 3-5 Teams and 23 6-8 Teams from 14 of our schools. We will have helpers from Mt. St. Mary's and St.

Francis High School's Math Clubs to assist us during the day, as well as talk about the Math Club opportunities in their schools.

If you would like last year's tests to practice from, you can download them [HERE](#).

Spelling Bee

It's never too early to start thinking about the Annual Spelling Bee! We will be holding the Diocesan Spelling Bee on Monday, January 27th at Mount St. Mary's High School. I have put this year's study guides into a [Google Folder you can all access here](#). There are study guides by grade level or lists you can use for a school wide Bee. A great resource to share with parents is [this study list](#).

I would give the grades their [individual spelling lists](#) to study, but make the [Overall Spelling Study List](#) available to anyone who wants it.

If you are using those 50 words in the classroom spelling bee, make sure to have additional words on hand. You can always supplement with regular spelling words for each grade, or there are usually lists available through a Google search.

This listing from [2020](#) is a great use of words to practice from or use for a school spelling bee. Here is the listing from [2022](#) as well.

October 29

Starting immediately, there is a new process for job postings for the Diocese and our Catholic Schools. Please use the same [job posting form](#) you have been using, but now **please email it to [Lindsay Gibson](#)**. She will be posting it on the Diocesan Job Board. All jobs are now centralized on the Diocesan page. There is a wonderful search bar for interested candidates to search for exactly what they are looking for. Our Catholic School employment page will direct everyone looking for a job to the Diocesan Job Board as well. I will be forwarding any requests I receive on to Lindsay so nothing gets missed in this transitional process.

Wednesday is the last day to sign up for the Math competition. I know many of you are interested, but only 2 schools have signed up so far. Please sign up this week, even if you do not have the names of your students all set yet. We can do that closer to the competition. I will ONLY be emailing the Sprint Round out on Thursday to those schools who have registered teams by Wednesday.

October 22

The online examination request system for the 2025 Grades 3-8 English Language Arts and Mathematics Tests and the Grades 5 & 8 Science Tests will close **Friday, November 8, 2024**. Please place your order [HERE](#) before Nov. 8th if you have not already done so. When placing your order you may ask for copies of "Test Read" by grade level, pursuant to an IEP or 504 Plan for students in those grades. For your Science Grade 5 and 8, you should order Science even though you can leave the Lead Scoring Entity blank. You can always make changes to the system for test orders before Nov. 8 and then "Submit and Certify Your Request" again.

The Math Competition this year is on November 22nd at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart. You can register [here](#) by Oct. 30th and find out more information [here](#). Each school may register up to 2 teams for each level: grades 3-5 and grades 6-8. Each team may have from 2-6 members on it. Students are asked to wear spirit wear or uniforms to this event. The SPRINT ROUND will be conducted at school a week or two before the competition. The testing pages will be emailed to registered schools on Wednesday, October 31st. They must be completed in class, scanned and emailed back to me by 3pm on November 13th. Our department will do all of the scoring of those pages - just test, scan them and email them back to lwojtaszczyk@buffalodiocese.org.

October 15

The Math Competition this year is on November 22nd at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart. You can register [here](#) by Oct. 30th and find out more information [here](#). Each school may register up to 2 teams for each level: grades 3-5 and grades 6-8. Each team may have from 2-6 members on it. Students are asked to wear spirit wear or uniforms to this event.

The Diocesan Spelling Bee this year is on January 27th at Mount St. Mary High School. You can register [here](#) by Jan. 17th and find out more information [here](#). Each school may register their top 3 spellers, no matter what grade they are in. Students are asked to wear their uniforms to this event. Check out the [attached flyer](#) to share with parents.

October 8

The Math Competition this year is on November 22nd at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart. You can register [here](#) by Oct. 30th and find out more information [here](#). Each school may register up to 2 teams for each level: grades 3-5 and grades 6-8. Each team may have from 2-6 members on it. Students are asked to wear spirit wear or uniforms to this event.

The Diocesan Spelling Bee this year is on January 27th at Mount St. Mary High School. You can register [here](#) by Jan. 17th and find out more information [here](#). Each school may register their top 3 spellers, no matter what grade they are in. Students are asked to wear their uniforms to this event. Check out the [attached flyer](#) to share with parents.

October 1

The Diocesan Math competition has a date change - it will now be held one week later on November 22nd, still at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart. I apologize for this change, but the previous date had a conflict in my schedule I could not adjust.

[Here are some details about the Math competition:](#)

For both Elementary and Middle School competitions

- Each team should consist of 4-6 students.
- You may enter 2 teams at each level. Each level needs their own coach/parent supervisor.
- Every student participates in each round of the competition.

- The **SPRINT ROUND** will be conducted at school a week or two before the competition. Scan and email the answer sheet to lwojtaszczyk@buffalodiocese.org The testing pages will be emailed to registered schools on Wednesday, October 31st. They must be completed in class, scanned and emailed back to me by 3pm on November 13th. Our department will do all of the scoring of those pages - just test, scan them and email them back.
- The top 4 scores are used to calculate the team score
- Answers must be fully simplified and, where appropriate, given in the format asked for in the question. Units of measurement are not required and should be omitted.
- **Elementary students should arrive at 9am. Competition will begin at 9.30 am with results at 11am.**
- **Middle school students should arrive at 11 am. Competition will begin at 11.30 am and results at 1pm.**
- There will be space available for teams to wait if they travel to the competition together.

Please register your interest no later than October 30th via this [form](#)

September 24

This Friday 9/27, is the end of our Fall STAR Testing window. Thank you for completing your testing on time. It is greatly appreciated.

This Friday 9/27, is the due date for your NCEA forms as well. Chris and I will start looking them all over and reach out if we have any questions. Thank you for completing these on time as well.

It's never too early to start thinking about the Annual Spelling Bee! We will be holding the Dicosean Spelling Bee on Monday, January 27th at Mount St. Mary's High School. I have put this year's study guides into a [Google Folder you can all access here](#). There are study guides by grade level or lists you can use for a school wide Bee.

September 17

eSchool is offering a training for eSD Basics on Tuesday, September 24, 2024. The training is for non-teaching staff who are new to eSchoolData or anyone who needs a refresher. Please contact Alexis Knavel if you have any questions. aknavel@e1b.org

Enrollment forms were sent out to all of the schools last week. For September please use your enrollment as of Friday, September 13th. Every month going forward (with the exception of October and November) you will use the 1st of the month for your enrollment numbers.

NCEA forms were sent out last week to the principal and anyone who was designated to assist them on the school contact form we sent out. The anchor date for this year is Friday, September 13th for enrollment and staff counts. There were a few changes to the forms this year but should be easy to complete. If you have questions or need assistance, give me a call. If you're new to your position I'm happy to hold a Teams or in-person meeting with you if you would like additional guidance.

September 10

Enrollment spreadsheets are being emailed this week. Remember we ask for enrollment at the beginning of each month, with the exception of October and November. Please use the same link each month. September's enrollment date is for this Friday, September 13th. This is also the NCEA anchor date.

NCEA spreadsheets are being emailed this week. If you do not have it by end of day Wednesday, please let me know. You can find the instructions in Chris' blog above, but we are always happy to answer any questions you have. I'm happy to make visits to schools to help new secretaries and administrative assistants with the process as well.

Our STAR window is open now through Sep. 27th. Continue to reach out if you are having issues with rosters or teachers. Good luck with testing.

All of the summer job postings have come down from our website. I certainly hope you are fully staffed, but, if you are still in need of a position, please contact me to repost it or send me a new job description. Need the form? [Here you go!](#) Please make a copy or download that file and send it to me. If you can add your school logo that helps the process along. You may want to check [our website](#) to ensure your postings are accurate.

eSchool has created a video library and how-to documents for teachers to better utilize Teacher Connect here: [Teacher Connect Online Resources](#). They also have created two videos for setting up gradebooks: [Gradebook Defaults](#); [Gradebook](#)

September 3

eSchool is now ready for the 2024-2025 school year. The following are the majority of errors that I find in level 0, so please make sure that:

1. All PK students are [excluded from state reporting and state enrollment](#).
2. Any transfers that happen use code 170.
3. All students have their home district added with a date at least one day before registration in your school.

STAR is also ready for the 2024-2025 school year. It is syncing with your information in eSchool, so please make sure your rosters and teachers are updated in eSchool to be correct in STAR. Once your classes are set in eSchool they will transfer to STAR. Please have your STAR Champion [check the classes and rosters](#) and make sure the [products for this year have been assigned to each class](#). They will want to also ensure that [team teachers](#) have been adjusted if necessary so everyone can see the data for students they pertain to.

If you are not seeing students in STAR it means your eSchool is not fully set up with teachers and rosters. There were about 12 schools last week that still needed to set up their rosters.

August 27

It's about time for the weekly Principal's Teams meetings to get underway. Please let us know your preference of time and date with this [Survey for Principal's Weekly Teams Meeting date](#). We will try to accommodate the majority.

Below are the Google Form links for use with the [Strategic Planning Guidebook](#) handed out at the Principal's Meeting on August 21. These must be completed by your regional/family meetings with the Bishop.

[Catholic Identity](#)
[Academic Excellence](#)
[Student Enrichment](#)
[Marketing & Enrollment](#)
[Great Place to Work](#)
[Leadership & Governance](#)
[Financial Viability](#)
[Community Focus and Agility](#)
[Draft Your Roadmap](#)

eSchool is now ready for the 2024-2025 school year. The following are the majority of errors that I find in level 0, so please make sure that:

1. All PK students are [excluded from state reporting and state enrollment](#).
2. Any transfers that happen use code 170.
3. All students have their home district added with a date at least one day before registration in your school.

STAR is also ready for the 2024-2025 school year. It is syncing with your information in eSchool, so please make sure your rosters and teachers are updated in eSchool to be correct in STAR. Once your classes are set in eSchool they will transfer to STAR. Please have your STAR Champion [check the classes and rosters](#) and make sure the [products for this year have been assigned to each class](#). They will want to also ensure that [team teachers](#) have been adjusted if necessary so everyone can see the data for students they pertain to.

August 20

Erie 1 Boces is doing some fantastic summer training. If you have a new administrative assistant, new teachers or a new eSchool coordinator, please consider sending them to one of these trainings. There is a [flyer with details here](#) as well. All workshops will be [held at Boces](#) in Building A, Room A-2.

[eSD Coordinator Training](#) 8/26 9am-2pm

[Turn-Key Teacher Training](#) 8/29 9-11am

I am very happy to come out to your school to assist any new administrative assistants, eSchool coordinators or teachers with their eSchool needs. Call or email and schedule a date with me today.

Denise Cronyn at St. Christopher has 12 desk available if anyone could use them. You can see photos of them here: [Angle 1](#), [Angle 2](#). Please email [Denise](#) for more information.

NYSED has released NYSA and NYSESLAT scores for the 23-24 school year. The data is now populating in the Level 1 Data Warehouse and Level 2 Reports. The Level 2 Individual Student Score Reports have not been released at this time. These reports will only populate if you had students eligible to take the NYSA and NYSESLAT assessments in 23-24.

August 6

[Please make sure to check your SIRS reports before Aug. 12.](#) If you make any changes to 2023-2024 student records you must notify me so I can ask eSchool to manually run level 0 updates. This is in regards to any changes that have been made in eSchool since July 17th, the date of the roll-up to the new year for

students. This is the final window to make any changes to the information for the 2023-2024 school year - and MUST be notified to me and eSchool.

During this time of year many new students are being added to or transferred out of your eSchool data base. Please make sure of the following:

- PK students should all be marked to be excluded from state reporting and excluded from state attendance.
- Home districts are added for all students - for the “from district” date please use one day before the registration date at your school, or the date they entered the district.
- All transfer students need the code 170 for “out of district school”. There are no exceptions to this.

Queen of Heaven has some gently used uniforms they are willing to share with other schools who could make use of them. They have the following available: navy blue polos and khaki bottoms (as in pants, shorts, and skorts for girls) and also some navy blue bottoms in smaller sizes only that are from their Pre-K students. If you are interested you can reach out to Debbie Joseph at debbiejoseph@qofhschool.org.

2023-2024 School Year

2023-2024 Character Education Monthly Traits

September- Welcoming
October- Sportsmanship
November- Service
December- Appreciation
January- Determination
February- Inclusion
March- Sacrifice
April- Problem Solving
May- Optimism
June – Joy

July 2024

July 9

Our Diocesan Grade Advancement date is July 17th this year. Please make sure all records are up to date as this will happen automatically through eSchool Data.

A few eSchool reminders:

1. Transfers all use the same code of 170: Transferred to another school outside this district. The Diocese is not a district - each of our schools are their own “district” for this purpose.
2. New students must have their home district listed in their registration information when being entered online.
3. PK students should all be marked to be excluded from state reporting and excluded from state attendance.
4. Students who have transferred from a different Diocesan school should transfer in STAR automatically, but please let me know if you do not see the students after we flip to the new year July 17th. Once the students are added in eSchool and assigned a teacher they will show in the nightly STAR sync.

June 2024

June 18

STAR tests from the Winter and Spring windows were manually being synced with eSD the week of June 12th. All scores for your students should be available if they were tested.

June 11

All job postings need to be sent to [Laurie](#) to be put up on our website. Please add your school logo to the top if possible replacing the section that says “Job Posting” through date posted. [Go to our website and click on School Job Posting Request Form](#). The form opens in your downloads and you can edit it from there.

Last week I attended a conference sponsored by Renaissance. I learned about a couple new products and some upcoming changes to their platform. I look forward to sharing the news with you all this summer.

June 4

Schools that administered CBT exams for 3 – 8 exams: Please [read this note](#) regarding constructed responses available in Nextera from the 2024 testing.

May 2024

May 28

It's that time of year where Erie 1 Boces is looking for each school to complete their [school setup page](#) and return it to either jdominguez@e1b.org or aknavel@e1b.org.

All STAR testing must be completed within the window of May 20 - June 10. No exceptions.

May 21

All job postings need to be sent to [Laurie](#) to be put up on our website. Please add your school logo to the top if possible replacing the section that says "Job Posting" and all the details below up until the date posted.

When adding new students in eSchool, please remember to add their home district. This causes many Level 0 errors that need to be corrected.

STAR testing must be done within the window of May 20 - June 10. No exceptions.

Here is the [PowerPoint](#) that was shared with the STAR Champions. We are creating a handbook for Best Practices and will share that at the Principal's Meeting.

May 14

Catholic Charities has created a fundraising contest for our schools - The Catholic Charities Cup! The top elementary and top high school to raise the most money before May 31 will be presented with a trophy and an ice cream party. See [this flyer](#) for more information. A letter will be emailed shortly with more details.

Many of our elementary and high schools have programs running throughout the summer. [Check them all out here](#).

Principals- please remember to send your MSA information to Laurie **before May 23rd**.

Our Diocesan Grade Advancement date is July 17th this year. Please make sure all records are up to date as this will happen automatically through eSchool Data.

Tomorrow is the last day to [RSVP](#) for the Character Award and Golden Apple Ceremony at St. Amelia's on May 28th beginning with 6pm Mass.

The May 22nd Principal Meeting will be held at the UB Newman Center. Here is the [RSVP link](#) as well as [the agenda](#). Pastors were invited through a [separate letter](#) and need to [RSVP by May 12](#).

The Character Virtue for May is Optimism. Please [submit your names here](#) by June 7th.

[Our calendar for the 2024-2025](#) year is ready, but is subject to change as the year progresses.

URGENT: If you have not ordered your school supplies for the end of the year, please use [this link](#) to notify Nancy of your needs.

May 7

Catholic Charities has created a fundraising contest for our schools - The Catholic Charities Cup! The top elementary and top high school to raise the most money before May 31 will be presented with a trophy and an ice cream party. See [this flyer](#) for more information. A letter will be emailed shortly with more details.

The Character Virtue for May is Optimism. Please [submit your names here](#) by June 7th.

Many of our elementary and high schools have programs running throughout the summer. [Check them all out here](#).

[Our calendar for the 2024-2025](#) year is ready, but is subject to change as the year progresses.

Principals- please remember to send your MSA information to Laurie **before May 23rd**.

The May 22nd Principal Meeting will be held at the UB Newman Center. Here is the [RSVP link](#) as well as [the agenda](#). Pastors were invited through a [separate letter](#) and need to [RSVP by May 12](#).

Our annual Character Award and Gold Apple Award Ceremony will be held on Tuesday, May 28th at St. Amelia Church. [Please RSVP](#) before May 15th for this evening so we can plan accordingly. We will begin with Mass at 6pm followed by light refreshments. Each school should [RSVP](#) with the total number of people attending from their school - how many students and their families along with any school representatives.

April 2024

April 30

Principals were sent a listing of students who registered for the St. Gregory dance location Friday night. We have a great turnout from 12 different schools! Just a quick reminder that students are to be dropped off no earlier than 6:45pm and dismissal is at 10pm.

It's time to notify our office of your summer camp programs. Please email Laurie with any details so our website can be updated for you.

eSchool Reminders:

- When students are transferring to/from your school, please ALWAYS use the code 170. We are a system of schools and not a District. The students are always going to be "outside of your district" when they are moving in or out.
- When you are adding new students, please remember to add their home district to their registration information.

Mystery Science for the 2024-2025 school year submissions must be to Nancy NO LATER THAN MAY 2. You were emailed a form to fill out and return to her - this is an urgent request if you have not submitted your form back to her.

The Character Virtue for April is Problem Solving. Please [submit your names here](#) by May 3rd.

****LOCATION CHANGE**** The May 22nd Principal Meeting will be held at the UB Newman Center. Here is the [RSVP link](#) for you.

Our annual Character Award and Gold Apple Award Ceremony will be held on Tuesday, May 28th at St. Amelia Church. [Please RSVP](#) before May 15th for this evening so we can plan accordingly. We will begin with Mass at 6pm followed by light refreshments. Each school should [RSVP](#) with the total number of people attending from their school - how many students and their families along with any school representatives.

If you have not ordered your school supplies for the end of the year, please use [this link](#) to notify Nancy of your needs.

St. Mary's Church, Swormville, is excited to host Karlo Broussard, nationally acclaimed Catholic speaker and staff apologist at Catholic Answers, for twelve unique talks over

four days, May 19 -22. All talks are free and open to the public. A complete list of topics and times are listed at:

<https://link.edgepilot.com/s/dd552a00/25fCGXcfXUG-uxPaDQfygg?u=https://www.stmaryswormville.org/page/st-marys-parish-mission>.

April 23

Our next Principal's meeting is on May 22nd and will be held at the UB Newman Center. It's time to notify our office of your summer camp programs. Please [email Laurie](#) with any details so our website can be updated for you.

This is the last week to get your Spring Dance tickets! There will be no tickets at the door. The Northtown 6/7/8 grade Spring Dance will be held at St. Gregory's on Friday, May 3rd. Tickets are \$25 each and can be purchased online through [TicketSource](#) through April 27th. Here is a [flyer](#) for advertising at your schools. Please use this [Signup Genius](#) to let us know how your school will help.

The Southtown Spring Fling will be held at Queen of Heaven on Friday, May 3rd. Tickets are \$25 each and can be purchased online [here](#)

eSchool Reminders:

- When students are transferring to/from your school, please ALWAYS use the code 170. We are a system of schools and not a District. The students are always going to be "outside of your district" when they are moving in or out.
- When you are adding new students, please remember to add their home district to their registration information.

Mystery Science for the 2024-2025 school year submissions must be to Nancy NO LATER THAN MAY 2. You were emailed a form to fill out and return to her - this is an urgent request if you have not submitted your form back to her.

The Character Virtue for April is Problem Solving. Please [submit your names here](#) by May 3rd.

****LOCATION CHANGE**** The May 22nd Principal Meeting will be held at the UB Newman Center. Here is the [RSVP link](#) for you.

Our annual Character Award and Gold Apple Award Ceremony will be held on Tuesday, May 28th at St. Amelia Church. [Please RSVP](#) before May 15th for this evening so we can plan accordingly. We will begin with Mass at 6pm followed by light refreshments. Each school should [RSVP](#) with the total number of people attending from their school - how many students and their families along with any school representatives.

If you have not ordered your school supplies for the end of the year, please use [this link](#) to notify Nancy of your needs.

From Don Blowey:

On March 15, 2024, the Safe Environment Office emailed the 2024 Safe Environment Audit materials to all parishes and schools. The email was sent again on April 15. If you have questions please contact [Don Blowey](#).

The due date for schools to provide their audit response back to the Safe Environment Office is May 15.

This audit has been an annual audit since 2003, and is currently conducted by StoneBridge Business Partners, a Rochester-based firm. The school and parish portion of the audit is to ensure we are doing all we can to protect youth and vulnerable adults in our schools and parishes. The school requirements extend to all ADULTS, over the age of 18, who work as school employees or volunteers. The basic requirements include three things:

1. Proper screening of all potential employees and volunteers who may have access to youth or vulnerable persons. The screening includes interviewing, reference checking, and recurring criminal background checks which are repeated every 5 years. The Protecting God's Children® Workshop and ongoing training are required.
2. Posters and/or prayer cards should be displayed to let people know how to report abuse. A sample poster was included in both recent email messages.
3. Annual Safe Environment Training for K-12 students is required in schools. Bishop Fisher approved the Virtus Empowering God's Children program for this annual requirement.

April 16

- Please [let us know](#) who you will be sending from your school for the Bowling Championships on April 27th at 10am at Classic Lanes.
- Julie and Laurie will be holding a PD afternoon for the STAR Champions for each school at the [Catholic Center](#) on April 24th from 12-2:30pm. Please RSVP [here](#) by Fri. 4/19 - attending in person, virtually, or unable to attend. Thank you.
- The 2024 Youth Conference is being held on April 23rd at Niagara University and is free for 6-12th graders who want to be leaders in their schools. Here is the [student application form](#), an [invitation letter for the schools](#) with an agenda, and a list of the [awards to be won](#) that day.
- It's time to notify our office of your summer camp programs. Please [email Laurie](#) with any details so our website can be updated for you.
- The Northtown 6/7/8 grade Spring Dance will be held at St. Gregory's on Friday, May 3rd. Tickets are \$25 each and can be purchased online through [TicketSource](#) through April 27th. Here is a [flyer](#) for advertising at your schools. Please use this [Signup Genius](#) to let us know how your school will help.

- The Southtown Spring Fling will be held at Queen of Heaven on Friday, May 3rd. Tickets are \$25 each and can be purchased online [here](#)
- The Character Virtue for April is **Problem Solving**. Please [submit your names here](#) by May 3rd.

March 2024

March 26

- It's time to notify our office of your summer camp programs. Please [email Laurie](#) with any details so our website can be updated for you.
- The 6/7/8 grade Spring Dance will be held at St. Gregory's on Friday, May 3rd. Tickets are \$25 each (+fees) and can be purchased online through [TicketSource](#) through April 26th. There will be no tickets sold at the door. All students MUST attend a Diocesan school - all registrations will be verified through class rosters and Principal approval. Here is a [flyer](#) for advertising at your schools. Refreshments will be available for purchase. We are asking each school to send someone to help with either Set-Up, Chaperoning, Security, or Clean-up. Please use this [Signup Genius](#) to let us know how your school will help.
- Sign up for the [8th Grade Retreat](#) being held on April 19th at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart. Register before April 12th. **We are looking for principals or teachers who would like to assist Denise York in the planning and running of small groups. Please contact Laurie if you are interested.**
- The 34th Annual Diocesan Art Exhibition will be held at St. Mary, Swormville from May 13-15th. Please sign up [here](#) and use [these posters](#) to advertise in your schools. Entry guideline information can be found [here](#) as well.
- X-STREAM Games will be held on May 4th at St. Joe's. See Rachel's [STREAM Blog](#) for more detailed information. [On-Line registration is open](#) for school teams. The cutoff for registrations will be Friday, April 12. We will be holding a Science Fair Exhibition during the X-STREAM Games. Registration for that event can be found [here](#).
- **NEW DATE** for the Elementary Track Meet at St. Francis High School on May 20th and 21st. There are no rain dates this year.
- The Character Virtue for March is **Sacrifice**. Please [submit your names here](#) by April 9th. (changed due to Easter break and Eclipse day)

March 19

- The 6/7/8 grade Spring Dance will be held at St. Gregory's on Friday, May 3rd. Tickets are \$25 each (+fees) and can be purchased online through [TicketSource](#) through April 26th. There will be no tickets sold at the door. All students MUST attend a Diocesan school - all registrations will be verified through class rosters and Principal approval. Here is a [flyer](#) for advertising at your schools. Refreshments will be available for purchase. We are asking each

school to send someone to help with either Set-Up, Chaperoning, Security, or Clean-up. Please use this [Signup Genius](#) to let us know how your school will help.

- Sign up for the [8th Grade Retreat](#) being held on April 19th at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart.
- The 34th Annual Diocesan Art Exhibition will be held at St. Mary, Swormville from May 13-15th. Please sign up [here](#) and use [these posters](#) to advertise in your schools. Entry guideline information can be found [here](#) as well.
- X-STREAM Games will be held on May 4th at St. Joe's. See Rachel's [STREAM Blog](#) for more detailed information. [On-Line registration is open](#) for school teams this week. The cutoff for registrations will be Friday, April 12. We will be holding a Science Fair Exhibition during the X-STREAM Games. Registration for that event can be found [here](#).
- **NEW DATE** for the Elementary Track Meet at St. Francis High School on May 20th and 21st. There are no rain dates this year.
- The Character Virtue for March is **Sacrifice**. Please [submit your names here](#) by April 5th.

March 12

- Sign up for the [8th Grade Retreat](#) being held on April 19th at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart.
- All Diocese of Buffalo Catholic Schools are invited to nominate one teacher for the Golden Apple Award. This award is meant to celebrate a teacher in your school who goes above and beyond and has had a positive impact on the education of your students. All [nominations are due](#) by Wednesday, April 17th.
- The 34th Annual Diocesan Art Exhibition will be held at St. Mary, Swormville from May 13-15th. Please sign up [here](#) and use [these posters](#) to advertise in your schools. Entry guideline information can be found [here](#) as well.
- The Character Virtue for March is **Sacrifice**. Please [submit your names here](#) by April 5th.
- X-STREAM Games will be held on May 4th at St. Joe's. See Rachel's [STREAM Blog](#) for more detailed information. On-Line registration will open for school teams this week. The cutoff for registrations will be Friday, April 12.
- Those students who prepared themselves for the [Science Fair](#) will have a chance to still show off their work! We will be holding a Science Fair Exhibition during the X-STREAM Games. Registration for that event can be found [here](#).
- Save the date for the Diocesan Track Meet at St. Francis High School on May 13th and 14th. More details to come. There are no rain dates this year.
- We will be holding a Diocesan 7th and 8th Grade Dance on May 3rd, at St. Gregory the Great from 7-10pm. Proceeds will benefit BISON Fund. More details will be forthcoming, but please let me know ASAP if you would like to be on the committee for this fun activity. We need lots of chaperones and helpers!

March 5

- Save the date for the Diocesan Track Meet at St. Francis High School on May 13th and 14th. More details to come. There are no rain dates this year.
- We will be holding a Diocesan 7th and 8th Grade Dance on May 3rd, at St. Gregory the Great from 7-10pm. Proceeds will benefit BISON Fund. More details will be forthcoming, but please let me know ASAP if you would like to be on the committee for this fun activity. We need lots of chaperones and helpers!
- Our [Science Fair](#) is this weekend - March 9th - **EVENT HAS BEEN CANCELED**
- [Information here](#) on the Diocesan Art Fair May 14th & 15th. This is a printable flyer, courtesy of Tris D'Angelo.
- The Character Virtue for March is **Sacrifice**. Please [submit your names here](#) by April 5th.
- [March Principal's Meeting](#) is on March 7 at St. John Vianney. Breakfast and lunch will be provided this day. Take a peek at the [agenda](#).

February 2024

Feb 27

- Save the date for the Diocesan Track Meet at St. Francis High School on May 13th and 14th. More details to come. There are no rain dates this year.
- We will be holding a Diocesan 7th and 8th Grade Dance on May 3rd, at St. Gregory the Great from 7-10pm. Proceeds will benefit BISON Fund. More details will be forthcoming, but please let me know ASAP if you would like to be on the committee for this fun activity. We need lots of chaperones and helpers!
- Our [Science Fair](#) is just around the corner on March 9th **at St. John's in Kenmorel.**
*****NEW LOCATION***** Register [here](#) ASAP, find information [here](#) or a parent letter [here](#).
- Spring Bowling begins March 5th. [Sign up here](#) before **Feb. 29th**. [Here is a flyer](#) for more information.
- The Character Virtue for February is **Inclusion**. Please [submit your names here](#) by March 2nd.
- Please sign up for the [March Principal's Meeting](#). It is on March 7 at St. John Vianney. Breakfast and lunch will be provided this day. Take a peek at the [agenda](#).
- The Foundation has a donor that would like to gift one of our schools - or a family at one of our schools - with a Krakauer upright piano. The donor will cover moving expenses to it's new home and will cover the cost of the first tuning. Please email [Nancy Gugino](#) if your school would like to receive this wonderful donation. (Photos below.)



Feb 13th

- We are working on a Diocesan Dance for May 3rd. More details will come out as soon as possible.
- Our [Science Fair](#) is just around the corner! March 9th at St. Andrew's Country Day School. Register [here](#), find information [here](#) or a parent letter [here](#).
- It's time to start thinking about Spring Bowling which begins March 5th. [Sign up here](#) before Feb. 27th. [Here is a flyer](#) for more information.
- The Character Virtue for February is **Inclusion**. Please [submit your names here](#) by March 2nd.
- Please sign up for the [March Principal's Meeting](#). It is on March 7 at St. John Vianney.
- X-Stream games are happening at St. Joseph's Collegiate on May 4th. More details will come out shortly.
- Lent begins tomorrow, Feb. 14th with Ash Wednesday. How are you preparing?

Feb 6th

- The Public Speaking Tournament has been canceled due to lack of interest.
- The BPO Concert is coming up on Feb 13th. Have you ordered your transportation?
- Our Science Fair is just around the corner! March 9th at St. Andrew's Country Day School. Register [here](#) and find information [here](#) or a parent letter [here](#).
- It's time to start thinking about Spring Bowling which begins March 5th. [Sign up here](#) before Feb. 27th. [Here is a flyer](#) for more information.
- The Character Virtue for February is **Inclusion**. Please [submit your names here](#) by March 2nd.
- Please sign up for the [March Principal's Meeting](#). It is on March 7 at St. John Vianney.
- **ORDER 3 – 8 ANSWER SHEETS OR INDICATE TESTING ONLINE before Feb 19:** The WNYRIC Test Score team would like you to [log into their website](#), and "order" your paper AND computer based testing answer sheets. If you are testing via CBT, they would like you to log in and indicate "testing online" for each grade and subject.
- Order your [School supplies here](#) (like Cumulative cards, report card envelopes, etc.)
- Last call for [Years of Service](#) - due by 2/9 We honor 5 year increments only.

- X-Stream games are happening at St. Joseph's Collegiate on May 4th. More details will come out shortly.
- Congratulations to our Spelling Bee Champion Marie S. from St. Stephens and our Runner-up Melina B. from St. Gregory the Great.
- Chess Tournament, Champion: Carlino McClain, 8th grade from St. Andrew Country Day School. Runner-Up: Nick Smith, 7th grade from St. Christopher's. Novice bracket: Champion: Arush Patel, 6th grade from St. Andrew Country Day School; Runner-Up: Jonathan Bohan, 8th grade from Our Lady of Victory

January 2024

Jan 30th

- The speech tournament will now be at St. Andrew's Country Day on February 10th. [Here is a flyer](#) with more information for those schools participating. Sign up [HERE](#). Contact [Rachel Zeller](#) for more information
- [Religious Liberty Essay Contest sponsored by the USCCB](#)
- Chess Tournament at Cardinal O'Hara on Feb. 3rd, 10am start. Sign up [HERE](#) Please sign up before January 31. Contact [Laurie Wojtaszczyk](#) for more information or see the flyer [HERE](#). Directions for students and parents can be found [HERE](#).
- STAR Testing window is Jan. 8-29. PLEASE make sure you are doing all of your testing during this timeframe. Let me know if you have any issues that need to be worked out ASAP.

Jan 23rd

- Dr. Kaitlin Reichart of the Greeley Center for Catholic Education will be joining us virtually on Thursday. This session is designed for teachers and is a followup to her presentations on October 6th. The session is from 2-3 pm. [Click here to join the meeting](#)
- New school scorecards and diocesan scorecards should be sent out to all principals, pastors, chaplains, and board chairs this week.
- Every school should receive their customized MSA adult and student surveys by tomorrow, Wed Jan 24th. If you don't, please contact your District liaison.
- Chess Tournament at Cardinal O'Hara on Feb. 3rd, 10am start. Sign up [HERE](#) Please sign up before January 31. Contact [Laurie Wojtaszczyk](#) for more information or see the flyer [HERE](#). Directions for students and parents can be found [HERE](#).
- The speech tournament was postponed and we're still awaiting a new date and place. [Here is a flyer](#) with more information for those schools participating.
- The Diocesan Spelling Bee will be held on January 31st at 6pm at Mount St. Mary's High School. Please register your top 3 spellers [HERE](#) after you have held your own school-wide spelling bee. You can find resources and practice spelling words [HERE](#) along with some [tips for your in-school spelling bees](#).

- Here is the [Catholic Schools Week schedule](#).
- STAR Testing window is Jan. 8-29. PLEASE make sure you are doing all of your testing during this timeframe. Let me know if you have any issues that need to be worked out ASAP.
- Ash Wednesday and Lent are right around the corner! (Feb 14th). How are you preparing?

January 16

- Chess Tournament at Cardinal O'Hara on Feb. 3rd, 10am start. Sign up [HERE](#) Please sign up before January 31. Contact [Laurie Wojtaszczyk](#) for more information or see the flyer [HERE](#). Directions for students and parents can be found [HERE](#).
- We are going ahead with the speech tournament this year and will be accepting late participants through Jan. 17th. [Here is a flyer](#) with more information for those schools participating.
- The Diocesan Spelling Bee will be held on January 31st at 6pm at Mount St. Mary's High School. Please register your top 3 spellers [HERE](#) after you have held your own school-wide spelling bee. You can find resources and practice spelling words [HERE](#) along with some [tips for your in-school spelling bees](#).
- Here is the [Catholic Schools Week schedule](#).
- STAR Testing window is Jan. 8-29. PLEASE make sure you are doing all of your testing during this timeframe. Let me know if you have any issues that need to be worked out ASAP.
- The Character Virtue for January is Determination. Please use [this link](#) to submit your student by Fri. 2/2. You may use this same link for each month.

January 9

- Chess Tournament at Cardinal O'Hara on Feb. 3rd, 10am start. Sign up [HERE](#) Please sign up before January 31. Contact [Laurie Wojtaszczyk](#) for more information.
- Speech Tournament at Cardinal O'Hara on Jan. 20th, 9am start. Sign up [HERE](#) Please sign up before January 10th. Contact [Rachel Zeller](#) for more information. We are asking for 2-4 judges per school if possible.
- The Diocesan Spelling Bee will be held on January 31st at 6pm at Mount St. Mary's High School. Please register your top 3 spellers [HERE](#) after you have held your own school-wide spelling bee. You can find resources and practice spelling words [HERE](#) along with some [tips for your in-school spelling bees](#).
- Here is the [Catholic Schools Week schedule](#).
- STAR Testing window is Jan. 8-29. PLEASE make sure you are doing all of your testing during this timeframe. Let me know if you have any issues that need to be worked out ASAP.
- The Character Virtue for January is Determination. Please use [this link](#) to submit your student by Fri. 2/2. You may use this same link for each month.

January 2

- Chess Tournament at Cardinal O'Hara on Feb. 3rd, 10am start. Sign up [HERE](#) Please sign up before January 31. Contact [Laurie Wojtaszczyk](#) for more information.
- Speech Tournament at Cardinal O'Hara on Jan. 20th, 9am start. Sign up [HERE](#) Please sign up before January 10th. Contact [Rachel Zeller](#) for more information. We are asking for 2-4 judges per school if possible.
- The St. Thomas More Guild announces its 18th annual scholarship for students attending Catholic elementary and high schools during the 2024-25 school year. One \$1,200.00 scholarship will be awarded to a student attending a Catholic elementary school, and one \$1,600.00 scholarship will be awarded to a student attending a Catholic high school. [Here is more information](#) and the application.
- Here is the [Catholic Schools Week schedule](#).
- If you would like a Google Doc for your job posting forms, please use [Job Posting Fill-In Form \(Parishes Schools\) 8-23](#), make a copy, and add your school logo. Then share the new file with Laurie to notify her of your openings.
- STAR Testing window is Jan. 8-29. PLEASE make sure you are doing all of your testing during this timeframe. Let me know if you have any issues that need to be worked out ASAP.
- We have a new Renaissance CDI Contact: Linda Senechal linda.senechal@renaissance.com *CDI is the system that connects eschool to the STAR platform. Linda can assist with any challenges.
- The Character Virtue for January is Determination. Please use [this link](#) to submit your student by Fri. 2/2. You may use this same link for each month.
- It's time to order your end of year school supplies. Please use [this form](#) to let us know what you need.
- The Diocesan Spelling Bee will be held on January 31st at 6pm at Mount St. Mary's High School. Please register your top 3 spellers [HERE](#) after you have held your own school-wide spelling bee. You can find resources and practice spelling words [HERE](#) along with some [tips for your in-school spelling bees](#).
- Our Lady of Victory, as part of our programming surrounding the [Saint John's Bible](#) and the Basilica's Centennial, will be offering a Kids Night Under the Dome on Saturday, January 6th at 5:30pm Mass. Kids are encouraged to bring a blanket, wear their pajamas, experience the beauty of the Saint John's Bible and the Basilica's Dome at night, join in activities, and see the story of the Magi brought to life. Pizza, snacks, and hot cocoa will be provided, and there is no cost.
-

December 2023

- The Character Virtue for December is Appreciation. Please use [this link](#) to submit your student by Fri. 1/5. You may use this same link for each month.

December 5

- Save the Date! We are going to hold budget workshops for principals (6-7 pm) and board members (7-8 pm) via Zoom on Thursday, Dec 14th.
- [Here is the draft schedule](#) for Catholic Schools Week
- The Diocesan Spelling Bee will be held on January 31st at 6pm at Mount St. Mary's High School. Please register your top 3 spellers [HERE](#) after you have held your own school-wide spelling bee. You can find resources and practice spelling words [HERE](#) along with some [tips for your in-school spelling bees](#).
- [Years of Service Certificates](#)
- January 11, 2024 - Principals' Meeting [Registration Form](#)

November 2023

November 28

- ***NEW DATE*** The Diocesan Spelling Bee will be held on January 31st at 6pm at Mount St. Mary's High School. Please register your top 3 spellers [HERE](#) after you have held your own school-wide spelling bee. You can find resources and practice spelling words [HERE](#) along with some [tips for your in-school spelling bees](#).
- Years of Service Certificates - <https://forms.gle/S2PRvKJ9tb5mEwnJ7>
- January 11, 2024 - Principals' Meeting Registration Form <https://forms.gle/7WG4Vg4UKh7aHQ576>

November 14

- [Studio 3:16](#) has a special offer to bring its video-based supplemental religion curriculum to 3 lucky religion classrooms? Interested? Email Dr. Uhl.
- We've created a google doc for agendas and notes from the 8:30 am Wed Teams Meetings. [Here is the link](#).
- The Diocesan Spelling Bee will be held on January 29th at 6pm at Mount St. Mary's High School. Please register your top 3 spellers [HERE](#) after you have held your own school-wide spelling bee. You can find resources and practice spelling words [HERE](#) along with some [tips for your in-school spelling bees](#).
- All Catholic schools are asked to consider sponsoring the Catholic Education luncheon, purchase tickets and ads, and tables. [Here is the link](#).

Important eSchool data entry reminders: (Please share with whoever makes corrections to your eSchool records)

- **ALL** students who **transfer** out of your school to another school **MUST use code 170**. All other codes create errors and would need to be corrected. Please never use code 153.
- When new students are added during the year, remember to add their home district and the “from” date on the registration page.
- When adding PK students, please mark them to NOT report on state reports. This can be done as a large group or on an individual basis – but it extremely important to have them marked this way. When those students move up to Kindergarten they will then have to be marked TO report on state reports. Again – this is a very important distinction.

November 7

- All Catholic schools are asked to consider sponsoring the Catholic Education luncheon, purchase tickets and ads, and tables. [Here is the link.](#)
- We are still looking for a part-time STREAM Coordinator. You can share [this job posting](#) with someone who may be interested.
- The Diocesan Spelling Bee will be held on January 29th at 6pm at Mount St. Mary’s High School. Please register your top 3 spellers [HERE](#) after you have held your own school-wide spelling bee. You can find resources and practice spelling words [HERE](#) along with some [tips for your in-school spelling bees](#).
- We’ve created a google doc for agendas and notes from the 8:30 am Wed Teams Meetings. [Here is the link.](#)

October 2023

October 31

- All Catholic schools are asked to consider sponsoring the Catholic Education luncheon, purchase tickets and ads, and tables. [Here is the link.](#)
- We are still looking for a part-time STREAM Coordinator. You can share [this job posting](#) with someone who may be interested.
- The Character Virtue for October is Sportsmanship. Please use [this link](#) to submit your student for October by Fri. 11/3.
- [2nd Annual Math Tournament](#) at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart. See [here](#) for details. **Register by Nov. 1st.**
- Catholic School’s Day with the BPO is Feb. 13, 2024 at 10:15am. Use the [BPO Registration](#) form to register your school (grades 1-4). **Payments must be received by January 8th.**
- We’ve created a google doc for agendas and notes from the 8:30 am Wed Teams Meetings. [Here is the link.](#)

October 24

- The Character Virtue for October is Sportsmanship. Please use [this link](#) to submit your student for October by Fri. 11/3.
- [2nd Annual Math Tournament](#) at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart. See [here](#) for details. **Register by Nov. 1st.**
- Catholic School's Day with the BPO is Feb. 13, 2024 at 10:15am. Use the [BPO Registration](#) form to register your school (grades 1-4). **Payments must be received by January 8th.**
- [8th Grade Diploma Order Form](#) must be **completed by January 31st.**
- We've created a google doc for agendas and notes from the 8:30 am Wed Teams Meetings. [Here is the link.](#)

October 17

- The online requesting systems for the 2024 Grades 3-8 ELA and Math tests and the Grade 5 & 8 Science tests are now open. Online requests may be submitted [HERE](#). **The system closes November 10, 2023**
- In eSchool the PS class code is only to be used for preschool students who are special ed CPSE students. It is not to be used for your PK3 classes or any other distinction. Please use PKH for half day, PKF for full day, or PK. **THIS IS A CHANGE THIS YEAR IN ESCHOOL. PLEASE UPDATE YOUR CLASSIFICATIONS IF YOU USE THIS CODE.**
- The Character Virtue for October is Sportsmanship. Please use [this link](#) to submit your student for October by Fri. 11/3.
- The Future City Competition date is set for January 20, 2024. It is a STREAM competition for students in grades 6 - 8. Students work as a team, writing an essay, designing and creating a 3-D scale model (made of a variety of recycled materials) of part of their futuristic city (including a moving part) and preparing a presentation to showcase the best features of their city. This year's theme is "Electrify Your Future". It is time to register your school's team(s) and get going on the competition's components. [See HERE](#) for more information. Teams generally work with a professional engineer as a mentor, so students get first-hand experience on what an engineer does. If you have questions, please e-mail or call/text Pat Trimper at ptrimper@gmail.com or 716-909-9468
- The Diocesan Speech Tournament will be on January 20th, 9am at Cardinal O'Hara. It is open to grades 5-8.
- We are busy getting ready for the [2nd Annual Math Tournament](#) at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart. See [here](#) for details. **Register by Nov. 1st.** Practice materials can be found [here](#) for both Elementary and Middle School. The Sprint round that needs to be done at school on Nov. 6th will be emailed to participating schools on Nov. 3rd.
- Catholic School's Day with the BPO is Feb. 13, 2024 at 10:15am. This year's theme is The Orchestra's Secret Formula. Use the [BPO Registration](#) form to register your school (grades 1-4). **Payments must be received by January 8th.**

- [8th Grade Diploma Order Form](#) must be **completed by January 31st**.
- Nomination forms: [Natalie Mattimore Lewis Kindness Counts Character Award](#) and [The Tim Russert Creative Scholarship for Writing Award](#) and [The Joseph S. Fanara Scholarship for Music Enrichment](#).
- We've created a google doc for agendas and notes from the 8:30 am Wed Teams Meetings. [Here is the link](#).
- STAR Champion Academy is now being held on Oct. 25, 26 & 27 at UB Newman Center, 495 Skinnersville Rd, Getzville, NY 14228. Register [HERE](#). View a sample of what will be covered [here](#) and how your school will benefit from Renaissance-U [here](#)

October 10

- We've created a google doc for agendas and notes from the 8:30 am Wed Teams Meetings. [Here is the link](#).
- STAR Champion Academy is now being held on Oct. 25, 26 & 27 at UB Newman Center, 495 Skinnersville Rd, Getzville, NY 14228. Register [HERE](#). View a sample of what will be covered [here](#) and how your school will benefit from Renaissance-U [here](#)
- The Diocesan Speech Tournament has been postponed to January 20th, still at Cardinal O'Hara. More details to follow.
- We are busy getting ready for the [2nd Annual Math Tournament](#) at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart. See [here](#) for details. **Register by Nov. 5th**.
- Catholic School's Day with the BPO is Feb. 13, 2024 at 10:15am. This year's theme is The Orchestra's Secret Formula. Use the [BPO Registration](#) form to register your school (grades 1-4). **Payments must be received by January 8th**.
- [8th Grade Diploma Order Form](#) must be **completed by January 31st**.
- Are any of our schools planning a trip to Washington, DC? You could include a stop at the St. John Paul II National Shrine while you are there. Here is a [sample schedule](#) and an [FAQ](#) about the shrine.
- It is our pleasure to send the annual nomination forms from The Foundation of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Buffalo for the [Natalie Mattimore Lewis Kindness Counts Character Award](#) and [The Tim Russert Creative Scholarship for Writing Award](#). New this year, there is another scholarship for students to apply for called [The Joseph S. Fanara Scholarship for Music Enrichment](#). Additional details and qualifications can be found by clicking on each scholarship name.

October 3

- We've created a google doc for agendas and notes from the 8:30 am Wed Teams Meetings. [Here is the link](#).
- Here is the [Agenda](#) for the Fall Professional Development day, October 6 @ St. Mary's HS. Here is the parking and room guide [map](#).

- STAR Champion Academy is now being held on Oct. 25, 26 & 27 at UB Newman Center, 495 Skinnersville Rd, Getzville, NY 14228. Register [HERE](#). View a sample of what will be covered [here](#) and how your school will benefit from Renaissance-U [here](#).
- The Character Virtue for September is Welcoming. Please use [this link](#) to submit your student for September by Fri. 10/6.
- The Diocesan Speech Tournament has been postponed to January 20th, still at Cardinal O'Hara. More details to follow.
- Sign up NO LATER than Nov. 5th for the [2nd Annual Math Tournament](#) at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart. See [here](#) for details.
- Kickball registration has been extended to Oct.6th. See the [flyer](#) and [form to register](#).

September 2023

September 26

- We've created a google doc for agendas and notes from the 8:30 am Wed Zooms. [Here is the link](#)
- [RSVP](#) for the Fall Professional Development day, October 6 @ St. Mary's HS. Here is the [AGENDA](#).
- STAR Windows: All schools should be working on their Fall STAR testing. You must be completed by September 27th. If you have any questions please reach out to Laurie Wojtaszczyk at wojtaszczyk@buffalodiocese.org.
 - Don't forget you must use this link to test! [Welcome \(renaissance-go.com\)](#)
 - Fall: September 6-27
- The Character Virtue for September is Welcoming. Please use [this link](#) to submit your student for September by Fri. 10/6.
- The Diocesan Speech Tournament has been postponed to January 20th, still at Cardinal O'Hara.
- Sign up NO LATER than Nov. 5th for the [2nd Annual Math Tournament](#) at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart. See [here](#) for details.

September 19

- [RSVP](#) for the Fall Professional Development day, October 6 @ St. Mary's HS. Here is the [AGENDA](#).
- STAR Windows: All schools should be working on their Fall STAR testing. You must be completed by September 27th. If you have any questions please reach out to Laurie Wojtaszczyk at wojtaszczyk@buffalodiocese.org.

- Don't forget you must use this link to test! [Welcome \(renaissance-go.com\)](https://welcome.renaissance-go.com)
 - Fall: September 6-27
- Did your office see the new monthly newsletter for Office Secretaries? Check it out [HERE](#).
- The Character Virtue for September is Welcoming.

September 12

- Weekly Principal Meetings on Microsoft Teams resume Wed. Sep. 13th at **8:30 am**. Principals were emailed an invitation Monday afternoon.
- 8th Grade Mass at the Cathedral, September 19th **at 10am**
- 12th grade Mass at the Cathedral, September 20th **at 10am**
- [RSVP HERE](#) by Fri. 9/15 for the School Board workshop September 22nd @ Hilbert College
- [RSVP HERE](#) for the Fall Professional Development day, October 6 @ St. Mary's HS
- Calendar for the [Department of Catholic Schools 2023-2024](#)
- STAR Windows:
 - Fall: September 6-27
 - Winter: January 8-29
 - Spring: May 20- June 10
- [Fall Activities Timetable Handout](#)
- Sign up by Sep. 20th for the [Diocesan Fall Bowling League](#). See the [flyer](#) for details.
- Sign up by Sep. 29th for the [2nd Annual Diocesan Golf Tournament](#) at Grover Cleveland Golf Course on October 11 at 12pm. See the [flyer](#) for details.
- Sign up by Oct. 5th for the 1st Annual [Speech Tournament](#) at Cardinal O'Hara on Oct. 21st. More details coming out soon.
- Sign up NO LATER than Nov. 5th for the [2nd Annual Math Tournament](#) at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart. See [here](#) for details.

September 5

- Principal Zooms resume Wed. Sep. 13th.
- [RSVP HERE](#) for the 8th Grade Mass at the Cathedral, September 19th
- [RSVP HERE](#) for the 12th grade Mass at the Cathedral, September 20th
- [RSVP HERE](#) for the School Board workshop September 22nd @ Hilbert College
- [RSVP HERE](#) for the Fall Professional Development day, October 6 @ St. Mary's HS
- Calendar for the [Department of Catholic Schools 2023-2024](#)
- Please fill out this short [School Contacts Form](#) for the upcoming school year
- Sign up by Sep. 20th for the [Diocesan Fall Bowling League](#). See the [flyer](#) for details.
- Sign up by Sep. 29th for the [2nd Annual Diocesan Golf Tournament](#) at Grover Cleveland Golf Course on October 11 at 12pm. See the [flyer](#) for details.

- Sign up NO LATER than Nov. 5th for the [2nd Annual Math Tournament](#) at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart. See [here](#) for details.

August 2023

August 29

- 8th Grade Mass at the Cathedral, September 19th
- 12th grade Mass at the Cathedral, September 20th
- School Board workshop September 22nd @ Hilbert College
- Fall Professional Development day, October 6, 2023 @ St. Mary's HS
- Calendar for the [Department of Catholic Schools 2023-2024](#)
- Please fill out this short [School Contacts Form](#) for the upcoming school year
- Sign up by Sep. 20th for the [Diocesan Fall Bowling League](#). See the [flyer](#) for details.
- Sign up by Sep. 29th for the [2nd Annual Diocesan Golf Tournament](#) at Grover Cleveland Golf Course on October 11 at 12pm. See the [flyer](#) for details.
- Sign up NO LATER than Nov. 5th for the [2nd Annual Math Tournament](#) at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart. See [here](#) for details.

August 22

- New Teacher Inservice (including VIRTUS), August 29th
- 8th Grade Mass at the Cathedral, September 19th
- 12th grade Mass at the Cathedral, September 20th
- School Board workshop September 22nd @ Hilbert College
- Fall Professional Development day, October 6, 2023 @ St. Mary's HS
- Calendar for the [Department of Catholic Schools 2023-2024](#)
- Please fill out this short [School Contacts Form](#) for the upcoming school year
- Sign up by Sep. 20th for the [Diocesan Fall Bowling League](#). See the [flyer](#) for details.
- Sign up by Sep. 29th for the [2nd Annual Diocesan Golf Tournament](#) at Grover Cleveland Golf Course on October 11 at 12pm. See the [flyer](#) for details.

2022-2023 School Year

May 2023

June 13

Summer Office Hours Request - please [CLICK HERE](#) for the form

- Please [use this form](#) to register for the June 27th principal meeting. [Here is the working agenda.](#)
- Weekly principal Zooms at 9:00 am on Wednesdays.
- June Principal Meeting, June 27th, St. Andrew's
- New Teacher Inservice (including VIRTUS), August 29th
- School Board workshop September 22nd
- Fall Professional Development day, October 6, 2023 @ St. Mary's HS.

June 6

Summer Office Hours Request - please [CLICK HERE](#) for the form

- Please [use this form](#) to register for the June 27th principal meeting. [Here is the working agenda.](#)
- Weekly principal Zooms at 9:00 am on Wednesdays.
- June Principal Meeting, June 27th, St. Andrew's
- New Teacher Inservice (including VIRTUS), August 29th
- School Board workshop September 22nd
- Fall Professional Development day, October 6, 2023 @ St. Mary's HS.

May 23

- [Link to register](#) for the [Security Workshop](#)
- It's that time of year to collect each school's summer hours. Here is a [Google form](#) for the schools to use.
- Please [use this form](#) to register for the June 27th principal meeting. [Here is the working agenda.](#)
- Weekly principal Zooms at 9:00 am on Wednesdays.
- School safety & security presentation, May 23rd. The program can [be found here](#). Details: 7-9 pm at St. Andrew Country Day School, [registration link here](#).
- Celebration (Awards Ceremony) May 30, St. Stephen's
- June Principal Meeting, June 27th, St. Andrew's
- New Teacher Inservice (including VIRTUS), August 29th
- School Board workshop September 22nd
- Fall Professional Development day, October 6, 2023 @ St. Mary's HS.

May 16

- [Link to register](#) for the [Security Workshop](#)
- Weekly principal Zooms at 9:00 am on Wednesdays.

- School safety & security presentation, May 23rd. The program can [be found here](#). Details: 7-9 pm at St. Andrew Country Day School, [registration link here](#).
- Celebration (Awards Ceremony) May 30, St. Stephen's
- June Principal Meeting, June 27th, St. Andrew's
- New Teacher Inservice (including VIRTUS), August 29th
- School Board workshop September 22nd
- Fall Professional Development day, October 6, 2023 @ St. Mary's HS.

May 9

- [Link to register](#) for the [Security Workshop](#)
- Safe Environment Audit materials are due May 15th.

April 2023

4/18

1. Weekly principal Zooms at 9:00 am on Wednesdays
2. 8th grade retreat April 21st.
3. Celebration (Awards Ceremony) May 30, St. Stephen's
4. New Teacher Inservice (including VIRTUS), August 29th
5. School Board workshop September 22nd
6. Fall Professional Development day, October 6, 2023 @ St. Mary's HS

March 2023

3/21

1. Weekly principal Zooms at 9:00 am on Wednesdays
2. [Catholic High School information nights](#) March 21st Nativity of Our Lord, March 28th St. Andrew CDS, 6-7:30 pm each night. Open to all students/parents in grades 6-8.
3. 8th grade retreat April 21st.
4. Celebration (Awards Ceremony) May 30, St. Stephen's
5. New Teacher Inservice (including VIRTUS), August 29th
6. School Board workshop September 22nd
7. Fall Professional Development day, October 6, 2023 @ St. Mary's HS.

3/14

1. [Here's the link](#) to the slide deck from last week's Principal meeting.

SAVE THE DATE

1. Weekly principal Zooms at 9:00 am on Wednesdays

2. [Catholic High School information nights](#) March 21st Nativity of Our Lord, March 28th St. Andrew CDS, 6-7:30 pm each night. Open to all students/parents in grades 6-8.
3. 8th grade retreat April 21st.
4. Celebration (Awards Ceremony) May 30, St. Stephen's
5. New Teacher Inservice (including VIRTUS), August
6. School Board workshop September 22nd
7. Fall Professional Development day, October 6, 2023 @ St. Mary's HS.

3/7

1. [Golden Apple Nomination Form](#); [St. Sebastian Award Nomination Form](#). Both due by March 27th.
2. [Here is a link](#) to sign up for the 8th grade retreat and [Here is the flyer](#).
3. The [March Principals Meeting Registration link](#) (for the March 9th meeting). Working agenda link can be [found here](#).

SAVE THE DATE:

1. Weekly principal Zooms at 9:00 am on Wednesdays
2. Meeting with Catholic high school principals/presidents March 8th.
3. Principal Meeting, March 9th, St. Andrew CDS
4. [Catholic High School information nights](#) March 21st Nativity of Our Lord, March 28th St. Andrew CDS, 6-7:30 pm each night. Open to all students/parents in grades 6-8.
5. 8th grade retreat April 21st.
6. Diocesan Awards Ceremony May 30, St. Stephen's
7. New Teacher Inservice (including VIRTUS), August
8. School Board workshop September 22nd
9. Fall Professional Development day, October 6, 2023 @ St. Mary's HS.

February 2023

2/28

1. [Here is a link](#) to sign up for the 8th grade retreat and [Here is the flyer](#).
2. Reminder that Wednesday is the last day to [sign up for bowling](#).

2/14

1. Nominate your inclusive teacher of the year and find out about professional development from FICE. [Both documents here](#)
2. Please email your summer school information to Laurie W.
3. The [March Principals Meeting Registration link](#) (for the March 9th meeting)

SAVE THE DATE:

1. Weekly principal Zooms at 9:00 am on Wednesdays
2. Meeting with Catholic high school principals/presidents March 8th.

3. Principal Meeting, March 9th, St. Andrew CDS
4. [Catholic High School information nights](#) March 21st Nativity of Our Lord, March 28th St. Andrew CDS, 6-7:30 pm each night. Open to all students/parents in grades 6-8.
5. 8th grade retreat April 21st.
6. /Diocesan Awards Ceremony May 30, St. Stephen's
7. Fall Professional Development day, October 6, 2023 @ St. Mary's HS.

2/7

- The [March Principals Meeting Registration link](#)

January 2023

1/31

1. Join us on Saturday, February 11 in the Nardin Academy gym from 7-9 pm for a special dance for all 7th and 8th graders enrolled in our Diocese of Buffalo Catholic Schools. Tickets are \$5 and the dress code is semi-formal. [Here is the set list of group dances](#) and instructional videos which you can distribute to your teachers (especially your PE teachers).
2. [Survey link for elementary principals](#) re: possible 8th grade retreat.
3. Survey link for [high school presidents & principals](#).
4. Survey link for [accreditation questions](#).
5. 8th Grade diplomas and 2023-2024 office supplies orders are due today! Here are the links to place your orders: [Diplomas](#) [Office Supplies](#)

1/24

1. 2022-23 [Years of Service Acknowledgment Award](#)
2. There is still time to order Rice Bowls and get this project going in your school! Lent is just about a month away, and you can still participate in this effort to help our poorest sisters and brothers around the world. Remember that there is LOTS of information at the Rice Bowl website: <https://www.crsricebowl.org/>
3. [Information here](#) for the 2023 African-American Catholic History book fair
4. **[7th and 8th Grade Dance at Nardin Academy](#)**
5. Join us on Saturday, February 11 in the Nardin Academy gym from 7-9 pm for a special dance for all 7th and 8th graders enrolled in our Diocese of Buffalo Catholic Schools. Tickets are \$5 and the dress code is semi-formal.

1/17

1. [Here is the link](#) to order your 2023 8th Grade Diplomas. Please have your order placed by January 31, 2023.

2. [Here is the link](#) to order your 2023-2024 Office Supplies. Please have your order placed by January 31, 2023.
3. The St. Thomas Guild is offering a scholarship for students in grades 6-11 next year. [Information here.](#)
4. FICE has called for nominations for your school's Inclusive Teacher of the Year and also a professional development opportunity. [Information here.](#)
5. [Here is the link](#) to enter your scheduled open house(s).
6. [Here is the announcement](#) that you can share with your community about the new Special Ed program at Cardinal O'Hara.
7. The BISON Fund pre-application for new and current families not on BISON for the 2023-24 school year will open up on January 15th. To start the process, families can complete a [pre-application form online here](#). The deadline is March 15th.
8. The Foundation is selling raffle tickets for a chance to win some pretty incredible prizes! The raffle winners will be announced at the Luncheon Event on January 26, 2023. Winners do not need to be present to win! Please see the attached flier or [go here](#) for more information!

1/10

1. [Here is the link](#) to enter your scheduled open house(s).
2. The BISON Fund pre-application for new and current families not on BISON for the 2023-24 school year will open up on January 15th. To start the process, families can complete a [pre-application form online here](#). The deadline is March 15th. Scholarships are awarded using a lottery system from all submitted pre-applications forms and all applicants will be notified of lottery results via email on March 16th. Current families do not need to fill out a pre-application, they will be emailed a link to complete the renewal process and add siblings on February 21st.
3. The Foundation is selling raffle tickets for a chance to win some pretty incredible prizes! The raffle winners will be announced at the Luncheon Event on January 26, 2023. Winners do not need to be present to win! Please see the attached flier or [go here](#) for more information!
4. [Here is the announcement](#) that you can share with your community about the new Special Ed program at Cardinal O'Hara.
5. [Here is the link](#) for the Office Blog with the latest forms and information. This can be found on the website under "Blogs."

SAVE THE DATE:

1. Weekly principal Zooms at **9:00 am** on Wednesdays
2. Diocesan principal meeting, Jan 12th, 2022 at St. Andrew's. This meeting will be sponsored by Catholic Virtual. [RSVP here](#). Agenda [will be posted here](#) (when ready).
3. STREAM coordinators meeting, Jan 25th.
4. All-diocesan 7th & 8th grade dance, Feb 11th, Nardin Academy.
5. Fall Professional Development day, October 6, 2023 @ St. Mary's HS.

December 2022

12/6

1. Nominations for the ["Making a Difference" teaching award](#) and the [Distinguished Principal](#) Award are due December 8th. Please fill out the appropriate nomination Google Form ASAP. (links above)
2. Laurie and Erie1 BOCES needs to know your [eschool contact info](#).
3. [Here is the link](#) for the Office Blog with the latest forms and information. This can be found on the website under "Blogs."

[eSchool Data coordinator](#)

November 2022

11/29 Office Updates

1. Nominations for the ["Making a Difference" teaching award](#) and the [Distinguished Principal](#) Award are due December 8th. Please fill out the appropriate nomination Google Form ASAP. (links above)
2. To get registered for the Learning Platform, send Laurie W your staff emails and she'll get an account for everyone.
3. [Here is the link](#) for the Office Blog with the latest forms and information. This can be found on the website under "Blogs."

11/15 Office Updates

1. To get registered for the Learning Platform, send Laurie W your staff emails and she'll get an account for everyone.
2. [Here is the link](#) for the Office Blog with the latest forms and information. This can be found on the website under "Blogs."

11/8 Office Updates

1. To get registered for the Learning Platform, send Laurie W your staff emails and she'll get an account for everyone.
2. The presentation that Catholic Charities gave at the October 27th Principals' Meeting on Mandated Reporting & Crisis Management can be found [Here](#).

11/1 Office Updates

1. The presentation that Catholic Charities gave at the October 27th Principals' Meeting on Mandated Reporting & Crisis Management can be found [Here](#).
2. Principals are asked to fill out this year's Health Card survey. [Here is the link](#).
3. Register for the [BPO concert here](#).
4. [Here is the link](#) for the Office Blog with the latest forms and information. This can be found on the website under "Blogs."

October 2022

10/25 Office Updates

1. Principals are asked to fill out this year's Health Card survey. [Here is the link](#).
2. Registration and Lesson Plans for the February 8th [BPO concert can be found here](#).
3. Reminder that the November 1st deadline for the required Safe Environment Training for youth in school is right around the corner.
4. [Here is the link](#) for the Office Blog with the latest forms and information. This can be found on the website under "Blogs."

10/18 Office Updates

1. Register for the [BPO concert here](#).
2. [RSVP here](#) for the Oct 27th principal meeting.
3. Reminder that the November 1st deadline for the required Safe Environment Training for youth in school is right around the corner.
4. When logging into STAR please make sure you are using our [updated link here!](#)
5. [Here is the link](#) for the Office Blog with the latest forms and information. This can be found on the website under "Blogs."

SAVE THE DATE!

1. Weekly principal Zooms at 9:00 am on Wednesdays
2. Principal Meeting, Oct 27th, St. Andrew's
3. [Diocesan Education Summit](#), November 10th. This is for principals, pastors/canonical administrators, board chairs, and one other stakeholder (4 from each school). [Click here](#) to RSVP.

10/10 Office Updates

1. [RSVP here](#) for the Oct 27th principal meeting.

2. Reminder that the November 1st deadline for the required Safe Environment Training for youth in school is right around the corner.
3. When logging into STAR please make sure you are using our [updated link here!](#)
4. [Here is the link](#) for the Office Blog with the latest forms and information. This can be found on the website under "Blogs."

10/3 Office Updates

Principal registration

[Click here](#) to RSVP for the Oct 27th Principal meeting.

Subject: MANDATED Safe Environment Training for Youth in all Catholic Schools and Parish-based Faith Formation Programs

Background.

When the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops ratified the "Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People" and implemented this Charter in June 2003, there were 17 "articles" of requirements. Article 12 requires safe environment training provided by all Catholic School and parishes for students Grades K-12. Each diocese has their own implementation plan to meet or exceed the requirements set forth in the Charter. The training is to be age-appropriate and should be annual training across all grades.

Who is required to provide training?

- All Catholic schools are required to provide Safe Environment training for their students in Grades K-12.
- Parish faith formation programs are also required to provide annual Safe Environment training for youth in Grades K-12

What is the Due Date for Completion? Training should be completed and recorded in Virtus by November 1st.

1. All training is to be recorded on the Virtus website.
2. Please keep in mind that you will also report this training as complete on the annual Safe Environment Audit.

What Resources Exist for this Training for Youth?

In the Fall of 2020, the Diocese of Buffalo contracted with Virtus to provide curriculum and materials to teach our youth. The program by Virtus is called "Empowering God's Children". We implemented this program several years ago and are continuing this program for the current

audit year. Virtus has created all of the training materials for the “Empowering God’s Children” program. While this specific program is highly recommended, you may still use other resources.

Where can I Find the Training Materials?

All materials are located on the Virtus.org website after you login. The materials are located under the “Educators” tab. Local Safe Environment Coordinators can grant access to this tab to anyone in their organization that needs access, providing they have an account in the Virtus system. To grant access for themselves or others, they can look up the individual who needs access in the Virtus system using “User Search”. Under the individual’s “General” tab, there is a “Special User Options” section and the checkbox next to “This individual has access to the educator tab” can be checked to grant access or unchecked to remove access.

How do I Prepare for and Conduct the Training?

There are 5 steps listed on the Virtus website. Just follow the steps! In short, they are:

1. Read the Overview and Founding Principles of the Teaching Safety - Empowering God's Children Program
2. Read Teaching Boundaries and Safety Guide
3. Parental Disclosure
4. Learn more about the current lesson plan and conduct the training.

(“Lesson 3 – Boundaries: You Have Rights!”)

There is an introductory 8-10 minute video and the lesson plan with choices for activities.

5. Record the training as complete in the Virtus system

What About Parent-Taught Lessons?

Materials are also available on the Virtus website under the “Educators” tab that you can send home by emailing parents a link to the training. Parents do not need to have a Virtus account to have access to the parent lesson plans. These plans have fewer activity choices than the lesson plans that are taught by schools and parishes.

The lessons are listed under the “Educators” tab. In the green column on the left you can click on the link labeled “Parent-Specific Lesson Plan Instructions”. When you click on the link, there are grade-level lesson choices and forms to acknowledge that the training has been conducted. I’ve embedded the links here so that you can easily click on them to understand what a parent/guardian would see without logging in to Virtus.org. The lessons and videos are also available in **Spanish** if you provide the links from the website. I did not include them below.

Grade K-2: [Lesson 3- Boundaries: You Have Rights! Grades K through 2](#)

Grade 3-5: [Lesson 3- Boundaries: You Have Rights! Grades 3 through 5](#)

Grade 6-8: [Lesson 3- Boundaries: You Have Rights! Grades 6 through 8](#)

Grade 9-12: [Lesson 3- Boundaries: You Have Rights! Grades 9 through 12](#)

On that same page is also a parent "Acknowledgement of Completion": [Parent Acknowledgement of Completion or Opt-Out](#). You will need to keep these forms from parents on-file for the annual audit.

In summary, the process this year is the same as last year. The biggest change is that we moved from "Lesson 2" across all grades to "**Lesson 3 – Boundaries: You Have Rights!**".

September 2022

9/27 Office Updates

1. Catholic Schools Day at the BPO will be held on Wednesday, February 8, 2023 at 10:15 am at Kleinhans Music Hall. The program is designed for students in Grades 1-4. Ticket information and registration can be found [here](#). The deadline to register is January 9, 2023. Please see the following links for lesson plans. [Lesson 1](#); [Lesson 2](#); [Lesson 3](#); [Lesson 4](#)
2. The Department of Catholic Schools is now looking to hire a part-time athletic director. Virtual work is available. Contact the office for more information.

9/20 Office Updates

1. [Save the Date](#) for the November 10th Diocesan Education Summit! You should have received an invite. Everyone needs to use the QR code and register individually. Or you could [Click here](#) to RSVP.
2. The 175th Anniversary Committee has developed a number of great resources for students & teachers to celebrate the diocese's demisemiseptcentennial anniversary, including sample lesson plans, tour guides, and a "Flat Timon" PDF for a social media contest. This will be found under "teacher resources" on our wnycatholicschools.org website but can also be [accessed here](#).
3. [Here is the link](#) for the Office Blog with the latest forms and information. This can be found on the website under "Blogs."
4. For all your STREAM-related content, [check out the STREAM page](#)

Save the Date!

1. Weekly principal Zooms at 9:00 am on Wednesdays.
2. 175th Anniversary Mass for 12th graders, Sep 27, 2022, 10 am at the Cathedral. [Please RSVP here.](#)
3. Diocesan Professional Development Day October 7, 2022 at St. Amelia's. You should have received a separate form for teachers to RSVP for certain sessions.
4. [Diocesan Education Summit](#), November 10th. This is for principals, pastors/canonical administrators, board chairs, and one other stakeholder (4 from each school). [Click here](#) to RSVP.

9/13 Office Updates

1. Southtowns Catholic is in need of Math Teacher resumes. Please email to mbandelian@southtownscatholic.org.
2. A group of SLU doctoral students are studying mentorship programs for new teachers. Please take a few minutes and help them! [Here is the link](#) to the survey. Deadline is September 24th, so don't delay.
3. The 175th Anniversary Committee has developed a number of great resources for students & teachers to celebrate the diocese's demisemiseptcentennial anniversary, including sample lesson plans, tour guides, and a "Flat Timon" PDF for a social media contest. This will be found under "teacher resources" on our wnycatholicschools.org website but can also be [accessed here](#).
4. [Here is the link](#) for the Office Blog with the latest forms and information. This can be found on the website under "Blogs."
5. [Save the Date](#) for the November 10th Diocesan Education Summit!
6. For all your STREAM-related content, [check out the STREAM page](#)

Save the Date!

1. Weekly principal Zooms at 9:00 am on Wednesdays.
2. 175th Anniversary Mass for 12th graders, Sep 27, 2022, 10 am at the Cathedral. [Please RSVP here.](#)
3. Diocesan Professional Development Day October 7, 2022 at St. Amelia's.
4. [Diocesan Education Summit](#), November 10th. This is for principals, pastors/canonical administrators, board chairs, and one other stakeholder (4 from each school).

9/6 Office Updates

1. School boards interested in the Strategic Planning process are being asked to [complete a commitment](#) today. Please reach out ASAP if you are planning to join this collaborative effort.
2. [Here is the link](#) for the Office Blog with the latest forms and information. This can be found on the website under "Blogs."
3. [Save the Date](#) for the November 10th Diocesan Education Summit!
4. For all your STREAM-related content, [check out the STREAM page](#)

Save the Date!

1. Weekly principal Zooms at **9:00 am** on Wednesdays. Due to the opening of school, we won't be holding a meeting this week.
2. 175th Anniversary Mass for 8th graders, Sep 13, 2022, 10 am at the Cathedral.
3. 175th Anniversary Mass for 12th graders, Sep 27, 2022, 10 am at the Cathedral. [Please RSVP here.](#)
4. Diocesan Professional Development Day October 7, 2022 at St. Amelia's.

[Diocesan Education Summit](#), November 10th. This is for principals, pastors/canonical administrators, board chairs, and one other stakeholder (4 from each school).

August 2022

8/30 Office Updates

1. School boards interested in the Strategic Planning process are being asked to [complete a commitment](#) by September 7th
2. [Here is the link](#) for the Office Blog with the latest forms and information. This can be found on the website under "Blogs."
3. [Save the Date](#) for the November 10th Diocesan Education Summit!
4. For all your STREAM-related content, [check out the STREAM page](#)
5. In case you missed it, here's our 2021-22 [Year in Review](#)

8/22 175th Anniversary Masses

175th Anniversary 8th Grade Catholic School Mass

Tuesday, September 13, 2022 at 10:00 am

Please RSVP here <https://forms.gle/i3HeUu2r3qhFnzaE8> no later than September 6th

175th Anniversary 12th Grade Catholic School Mass

Tuesday, September 27, 2022 at 10:00 am

Please RSVP here <https://forms.gle/i3HeUu2r3qhFnzaE8> no later than September 6th

Office Updates!

1. [Here is the link](#) for the Office Blog with the latest forms and information. This can be found on the website under "Blogs."
2. [Save the Date](#) for the November 10th Diocesan Education Summit!
3. For all your STREAM-related content, [check out the STREAM page](#)
4. In case you missed it, here's our 2021-22 [Year in Review](#)

Save the Date!

1. Weekly principal Zooms at 9:00 am on Wednesdays. These will begin this week.
2. 175th Anniversary Mass for 8th graders, Sep 13, 2022, 10 am at the Cathedral. [RSVP here](#).
3. 175th Anniversary Mass for 12th graders, Sep 27, 2022, 10 am at the Cathedral. [Please RSVP here](#).
4. Diocesan Professional Development Day October 7, 2022 at St. Amelia's.
5. [Diocesan Education Summit](#), November 10th. This is for principals, pastors/canonical administrators, board chairs, and one other stakeholder (4 from each school).

8/15 Monday Updates

Happy Monday All!

Today we celebrate the Assumption of Mary. Join me in a brief prayer.

Father in heaven,

all creation rightly gives you praise,

for all life and all holiness come from you.

In the plan for your wisdom

she who bore the Christ in her womb

was raised body and soul in glory to be with him in heaven.

May we follow her example in reflecting your holiness

and join in her hymn of endless love and praise.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

This Thursday is our first principals' meeting of the new school year. We will gather at Catholic Academy of West Buffalo, 1069 Delaware Avenue (Parking lot is located behind the school). Please arrive by 8 am. We will be boarding a bus and starting our day promptly at 8:15. Dress for the day is casual and I would suggest wearing comfortable shoes. There is no need to bring a computer.

Next Thursday is our new teacher orientation. We will gather at St. Andrew Country Day School from 9 am- 3 pm. Our morning session will be geared toward brand new teachers and teachers new to Catholic Schools. Participants will be given a one hour break for lunch and we will return at 12:30 to dive into the basics of STREAM! Please sign up your teachers (or pass the link along to them) here

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeVkl9Di23D-0QjRRPpVeWRm20AWQVSxJY7I5-CK6yiGY_YuQ/viewform?usp=sf_link

Our October 7th PD day is right around the corner. Please take a moment to fill out this brief survey to sign up your school.

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd7Uw2Gykvcq8gAGSUV9nHol-hWglm0K0tshcfRw6Gi2r50YQ/viewform>

There will be a First Aid/CPR Training for Coaches - (Fall Sports) St. Paul Parish Community Room 33 Victoria Blvd., Kenmore, NY 6-9 PM - **Tuesday, September 13th.**

Take a look at the website. There is a new section for an athletics blog which will contain important information, updates, and a revised copy of our Athletics Handbook.

An email went out to all board chairs about participating in strategic planning this year. Applications are due soon and don't forget this process is free!

That is all for now! See you Thursday!

8/8 Monday Updates

It is with a heavy heart we share the passing of Rev. Dr. Robert (Bob) Perelli. He unexpectedly passed away on Tuesday, August 2. We are incredibly grateful for the time Fr. Perelli spent speaking to and inspiring our Catholic School leaders. Information about services can be found [here](#).

- Have you been trained as a Eucharistic Minister? Do you have teachers or staff members that would like to be trained? Two trainings are on the horizon.

Saturday, August 13, 2022, at 9:30 AM

Immaculate Conception

8791 S. Main St

Eden, NY 14057 (in the Duffy Parish Center)

Saturday, August 20, 2022, at 9:30 AM

St. Jude the Apostle

800 Niagara Falls Blvd.

North Tonawanda, NY 14120 (in the Parish Hall)

○ A few schools are struggling to find foreign language teachers and have inquired about Rosetta Stone. If you are interested in using Rosetta Stone next year please send me an email by Thursday, August 11 that includes the number of student licenses you would need. I am working on some group pricing for us. If you were prefer information about Catholic Virtual, they can also provide foreign language teachers. I would be happy to connect you.

○ BOCES has reached out to confirm the schools that had students take a regents exam this year. If you are not included in the list below but had students take a regents exam please let me know.

St Benedict

DeSales

St Peter and Paul Hamburg

Our Lady Blessed Sacrament

St Greg the Great

St Amelia

St Mary Elementary

St Mary Swormville

St Andrews Country Day

St John Baptist Kenmore

Nativity BVM

Nativity Our Lord

Southtowns Catholic

St John Vianney

○ A recent article was published about the sale of the Southern Tier/Archbishop Walsh School building. To learn more click below.

https://www.bradfordera.com/news/diocese-lists-walsh-stcs-property-for-sale/article_a91d6695-50a1-535f-85b2-e50c911596c2.html

○ Take a moment to read the attached document which includes fall sports updates! Bowling, golf, and kickball!!!

Updates from Chris Riso!

Important Dates:

8/15/22 [NYS Elementary and Regents Test Counts Verified in L2RPT](#)

○ See [8/8/22 Edition of my Government Services Blog](#) for Instructions on how to do this.

8/20/22 Last Day to Register for Free UB Fall Graduate Classes

○ [UB Course Information is in 4/26/22 CSM](#)

8/31/22 Sign [“Written Affirmation” forms](#) for each District after Consultation

8/31/22 PDF/Copy of each Signed “Written Affirmation” form sent to C. Riso

9/2/22 Teachers approved to be alone with students via Safe Environment

8/2 Monday Updates... On Tuesday

Apologies that this email comes to you a day late. I fell victim to the craziness of air travel and after several delays and cancellations, I'm finally back!

Everyone should have received an email from Mary yesterday in reference to our 8th grade mass this fall. The 8th grade 175th Anniversary Mass will now be on Tuesday, September 13th at 10:00 am at St. Joseph Cathedral.

Last call for anyone interested in Paper. If you would like to learn more take a peek at their website and let me know if you may be interested in getting this resource for your students.
[Paper](#)

Looking for something to listen to as you continue to check items off that magical summer to-do list? Check out Dr. Uhl's most popular podcast of all time! [Podcast Advice From New Principals](#)

Did you sign up for the August 18th principals meeting? If not, [click here!](#) We are going to have a fantastic day of fellowship, fun, and preparation for a new school year. We will close out the day celebrating mass as a community and move to a new location for happy hour/dinner. You don't want to miss it!

Resources on our website are growing by the day! Be sure to check out the principal resource section and the updated principal task list for the 22-23 school year.

[New sports and activities are on the way!](#) Now that many of you have settled back in the office don't forget read this exciting article about new offerings for Catholic School students this year!

St. Amelia is hosting a PD day for specials teachers in our Catholic Schools on August 30th. Sign up teachers [here!](#)

Now buckle up for some important information from Chris Riso!

Chris Riso's Government Services Update can be found on his blog at [Government Services 2022-2023 - Google Docs](#). The following information is included:

Title IIa Count to Use for Consultation - Use Full K-12 BEDS Enrollment from 2021-2022
Public School Consultation - "2022-2023 Written Affirmation of LEA Consultation", Title Funds

[Consultation Summary Forms Available for Titles Ia, IIa, IIIa, and IVa: click here.](#)

Parent Income (Poverty) Survey: Forms Available if Interested (Not Required)

Summer Checklist for Government Programs

1. Complete Title I, Title IIa, Title III, and Title IVa consultation with the public school districts
 - a. Based on your Professional Development Plan for 2022-2023, decide where you will "keep" your Title IIa funds: with the School District of location, Erie 1 BOCES, NYSCIRS, or any combination of those three options.
2. 2021-2022 Mandated Services Folder Contents
 - a. Complete the School-specific Excel spreadsheet in August (send email to request your spreadsheet).
3. School Safety Plan Update

Important Dates:

8/2/22 Textbook Orders placed via BOCES or School District to
Receive by 1st Day

8/20/22 Last Day to Register for Free UB Fall Graduate Classes

○ [UB Course Information is in 4/26/22 CSM](#)

8/31/22 Sign "Written Affirmation" forms for each District after Consultation

8/31/22 PDF/Copy of each Signed "Written Affirmation" form sent to C.
Riso

9/2/22 Teachers approved to be alone with students via Safe
Environment

2021-2022 School Year

July 2022

July 25 - Back again with some Monday updates!

- 14 schools were represented at the Strategic Planning Zoom Call- we are currently developing an application process. More information to come!
- Don't forget to sign up for our August 18th principals' meeting. An RSVP is required so we can plan for lunch. [Sign up here!](#)
- The MST Grant is due on August 1. Chris will be out of the office Thursday and Friday. If you need assistance please reach out to him as soon as possible.
- St. Amelia School is going to host a PD day for specials teachers on August 30th. If you would like to send your specials teachers please have them complete the [google form here](#)
- OLBS will be open tomorrow from 9-2 if you are interested in collecting materials. These are all first come first serve. Don't forget to bring your own bags and boxes.
- Join me in congratulating Julie Gajewski as she takes on the role of Director of Advancement for St. Gregory the Great Parish. We wish you the best in this exciting new role!

July 18 - Monday Updates

- We are excited to welcome Laurie Wojtaszczyk our new Administrative Assistant-Special Projects! Some of you may know her as a former principal at St. Benedict School. Laurie has already been busy at work updating our new website. Take a look at the updated resources and the find a school map feature! You can reach Laurie at Lwojtaszczyk@buffalodiocese.org
- Are you looking to find new, fun ways to engage families and help them prepare for the new school year? Check out the communication suggestions from Smore [here!](#)
- Please take a moment to complete this google form to register for our August 18 principal meeting. This meeting does require some extra preparation everyone must RSVP so we can prepare accordingly. [August Principals' Meeting Notice & Registration \(google.com\)](#)
- We've connected with a new organization called Paper. They provide tutoring services that can benefit students during the school day and beyond. Learn more [here!](#) Warning- it is expensive but Title funds can be used to cover the cost. If you would be interested in piloting this program please let me know.
- Exciting news, we have 14 schools signed up for the strategic planning zoom tonight! More information about this process will come from your board chairs and our Monday updates.
- Mary is working on the new directory. It should be headed your way soon.

- Reminder: MST Grant due August 1.
- Don't forget to schedule your title consultation with your public school districts. If meetings aren't schedule yet you should do so asap.

July 11 - Updates!

- All principals are invited to a budgeting and finance workshop on Wednesday, July 13th at St. Stephen's Parish from 8:30-12 pm. Please RSVP to Mary Tepley if you will be able to attend mtepley@buffalodiocese.org
- Don't forget to take a moment and ensure your school website has clear instructions and contact information for families that may be interested in a tour or enrollment for the upcoming school year.
- Did you see the article about new athletic programs and activities for our Catholic Schools? Check it out [here](#)! Be welcome to post this on your own websites and push it out to families. We are excited to get as many students as possible involved in these new opportunities.
- The MST grant is due August 1.
- Take a look at the attached flyer for the second cohort of CSAANY's Emerging Leaders Institute. This is a fantastic opportunity to support future leaders in our Catholic Schools and give teacher leaders in your school a peek into the life of a principal. Title funds can help cover the cost!
- STAR Assessment set up is in full swing. If you have not received your invoice yet it should arrive in the coming weeks. If you have any questions about STAR please reach out to Kari.
- Information will be shared soon with your school board chairs about an opportunity to engage in a free, collaborative, strategic planning process during the next school year.

June 2022

6/14 Office Updates

1. As you plan for your professional development programs for next year, keep in mind that Kari ("The Science of Reading" and "Core Instructional Practices"), Chris ("Serving all Learners") and Dr. Uhl ("Distributing Leadership") can all be scheduled. [Here is a copy of the flyer.](#)
2. Chris Riso is reaching out to schools who have expressed interest in the Virtual Math Academy for middle school. If you'd like to be involved in the planning, please let Chris know via email.
3. Here is the [tentative list of dates](#) for meetings & activities for the 2022-23 school year which includes a new date for final principal meeting of the year (now in June, not May).

Save the Date!

1. July 13th Budgeting workshop at St. Stephen's parish. All school bookkeepers and principals are invited to share best practices around budgeting and financial reporting.

2. August 18th all-day principal meeting. We'll start the day at 8:00 at CAWB parking lot. More details to come. We'll close the day with happy hour and dinner so you might want to block the entire day!
3. Weekly principal Zooms at 9:30 am on Wednesdays. This week will be our final weekly Zoom.
4. 175th Anniversary Mass for 8th graders, Sep 20, 2022, 10 am at the Cathedral
5. Diocesan Professional Development Day October 7, 2022 at St. Amelia's.
6. Diocesan Education Summit, November 10th. This is for principals, pastors/canonical administrators, board chairs, and one other stakeholder (4 from each school).

Resources

1. Language for Anti-Bullying & Harassment for your handbooks, addressing hate speech, and the Diocesan DEI statements [can be found here](#).
2. We recorded a few short videos on May 12th from our veteran principals offering new principals advice. I had never used iMovie before, [this is my first attempt](#). This is an 8 1/2 minute video with five different voices.
3. The [Diocesan Health Scorecard](#).
4. The "[Shoot for the Stars](#)" one-hour TV special.
5. School Pastor's [Administrative Guide](#)
6. The [Executive Summary](#) of this year's school data.
7. Video recording of [All-schools Mass](#) at OLV with Bishop Fisher. [Here is the link](#) to Dr. Uhl's talk.
8. "[Principal Task List](#)." This is organized as a living Google Doc by month.
9. [Here's a link](#) to the forms on our website.
10. New [Policy Manual](#)
11. New [Operations Manual](#)
12. [Administrator Goal Sheet](#) and the new [Administrator evaluation form](#)

6/7 Office Updates

1. We are planning to send out electronic copies of your school health scorecards to pastors/canonical administrators and board chairs this week.
2. As you plan for your professional development programs for next year, keep in mind that Kari ("The Science of Reading" and "Core Instructional Practices"), Chris ("Serving all Learners") and Dr. Uhl ("Distributing Leadership") can all be scheduled.
3. Chris Riso is reaching out to schools who have expressed interest in the Virtual Math Academy for middle school. If you'd like to be involved in the planning, please let Chris know via email.
4. We have decided not to offer the Principal retreat this summer.
5. Eric County Opiate Epidemic Task Force announced [Narcan use training](#) for summer 2022.

6. If you're interested in learning about the passive Evolv weapons detection system, email the office. It's mobile, expensive, but effective (e.g. used by Disney parks).
7. Here is the [tentative list of dates](#) for meetings & activities for the 2022-23 school year which includes a new date for final principal meeting of the year (now in June, not May).

Save the Date!

1. July 13th Budgeting workshop at St. Stephen's parish. All school bookkeepers and principals are invited to share best practices around budgeting and financial reporting.
2. August 18th all-day principal meeting. We'll start the day at 8:00 at St. Amelia's parking lot. More details to come. We'll close the day with happy hour and dinner so you might want to block the entire day!
3. Weekly principal Zooms at 9:30 am on Wednesdays.
4. 175th Anniversary Mass for 8th graders, Sep 13, 2022, 10 am at the Cathedral
5. Diocesan Professional Development Day October 7, 2022 at St. Amelia's.

Resources

1. Language for Anti-Bullying & Harassment for your handbooks, addressing hate speech, and the Diocesan DEI statements [can be found here](#).
2. We recorded a few short videos on May 12th from our veteran principals offering new principals advice. I had never used iMovie before, [this is my first attempt](#). This is an 8 1/2 minute video with five different voices.
3. The [Diocesan Health Scorecard](#).
4. The "[Shoot for the Stars](#)" one-hour TV special.
5. School Pastor's [Administrative Guide](#)
6. The [Executive Summary](#) of this year's school data.
7. Video recording of [All-schools Mass](#) at OLV with Bishop Fisher. [Here is the link](#) to Dr. Uhl's talk.
8. "[Principal Task List](#)." This is organized as a living Google Doc by month.
9. [Here's a link](#) to the forms on our website.
10. New [Policy Manual](#)
11. New [Operations Manual](#)
12. [Administrator Goal Sheet](#) and the new [Administrator evaluation form](#)

May 2022

5/24 Office Updates

1. We have created a very short survey for principals to express interest in a few upcoming programs such as the principal retreat, virtual math academy, pathways to certification, etc. [Here is the link](#) for the survey designed to be taken this week.
2. Meitler is offering a [Catholic School Leadership cohort](#) for next year. We can recommend this program. Please apply soon because the kickoff retreat is coming up.
3. Here is the [tentative list of dates](#) for meetings & activities for the 2022-23 school year which includes a new date for final principal meeting of the year (now in June, not May).

Save the Date!

1. Weekly principal Zooms at 9:30 am on Wednesdays.
2. 175th Anniversary Mass for 8th graders, Sep 13, 2022, 10 am at the Cathedral
3. Diocesan Professional Development Day October 7, 2022 at St. Amelia's.

Resources

1. Language for Anti-Bullying & Harassment for your handbooks, addressing hate speech, and the Diocesan DEI statements [can be found here](#).
2. We recorded a few short videos on May 12th from our veteran principals offering new principals advice. I had never used iMovie before, [this is my first attempt](#). This is an 8 1/2 minute video with five different voices.
3. The [Diocesan Health Scorecard](#).
4. The "[Shoot for the Stars](#)" one-hour TV special.
5. School Pastor's [Administrative Guide](#)
6. The [Executive Summary](#) of this year's school data.
7. Video recording of [All-schools Mass](#) at OLV with Bishop Fisher. [Here is the link](#) to Dr. Uhl's talk.
8. "[Principal Task List](#)." This is organized as a living Google Doc by month.
9. [Here's a link](#) to the forms on our website.
10. New [Policy Manual](#)
11. New [Operations Manual](#)
12. [Administrator Goal Sheet](#) and the new [Administrator evaluation form](#)

5/17 Office Updates

1. Here is the [tentative list of dates](#) for meetings & activities for the 2022-23 school year which includes a new date for final principal meeting of the year (now in June, not May).

Save the Date!

1. Weekly principal Zooms at 9:30 am on Wednesdays.
2. 175th Anniversary Mass for 8th graders, Sep 13, 2022, 10 am at the Cathedral

3. Diocesan Professional Development Day October 7, 2022 at St. Amelia's.

5/10 Office Updates

1. [Here is the latest version](#) of the directory of schools. If you're not happy with your picture, bring your smile on Thursday!
2. X-Stream games are right around the corner [frequently asked questions](#) & [Invitation](#)
3. Recycling poster contest [info here](#).
4. Here is the [tentative list of dates](#) for meetings & activities for the 2022-23 school year.
5. Safe Environment audit instructions have been sent to your Safe Environment coordinators. **This is due back May 15th.** Please check to make sure everything is on track.

Save the Date!

1. Weekly principal Zooms at 9:30 am on Wednesdays.
2. X-Stream Games, May 15, 2022.
3. 175th Anniversary Mass for 8th graders, Sep 13, 2022, 10 am at the Cathedral
4. Diocesan Professional Development Day October 7, 2022 at St. Amelia's.

Resources

1. The [Diocesan Health Scorecard](#).
2. The "[Shoot for the Stars](#)" one-hour TV special.
3. School Pastor's [Administrative Guide](#)
4. The [Executive Summary](#) of this year's school data.
5. Video recording of [All-schools Mass](#) at OLV with Bishop Fisher. [Here is the link](#) to Dr. Uhl's talk.
6. "[Principal Task List](#)." This is organized as a living Google Doc by month.
7. [Here's a link](#) to the forms on our website.
8. New [Policy Manual](#)
9. New [Operations Manual](#)
10. [Administrator Goal Sheet](#) and the new [Administrator evaluation form](#)

5/3 Office Updates

1. X-Stream games are right around the corner [frequently asked questions](#) & [Invitation](#)
2. Recycling poster contest [info here](#).
3. We have extended the deadline until tomorrow (May 4th) for [this survey on Diocesan athletics](#) to all principals and athletic directors.
4. [Please fill out this survey](#) to RSVP for the principal meeting on May 12th. There are only 40 slots available! [Preliminary agenda](#) here.
5. Here is the [tentative list of dates](#) for meetings & activities for the 2022-23 school year.

6. Safe Environment audit instructions have been sent to your Safe Environment coordinators. This is due back May 15th. Please check to make sure everything is on track.

Save the Date!

1. Weekly principal Zooms at 9:30 am on Wednesdays.
2. X-Stream Games, May 15, 2022.
3. 175th Anniversary Mass for 8th graders, Sep 13, 2022, 10 am at the Cathedral
4. Diocesan Professional Development Day October 7, 2022 at St. Amelia's.

Resources

1. The "[Shoot for the Stars](#)" one-hour TV special.
2. School Pastor's [Administrative Guide](#)
3. The [Executive Summary](#) of this year's school data.
4. Video recording of [All-schools Mass](#) at OLV with Bishop Fisher. [Here is the link](#) to Dr. Uhl's talk.
5. "[Principal Task List](#)." This is organized as a living Google Doc by month.
6. [Here's a link](#) to the forms on our website.
7. New [Policy Manual](#)
8. New [Operations Manual](#)
9. [Administrator Goal Sheet](#) and the new [Administrator evaluation form](#)

April 2022

4/26 Office Updates

1. We have sent out [this survey on Diocesan athletics](#) to all principals and athletic directors to be completed by May 1st.
2. [Please fill out this survey](#) to RSVP for the principal meeting on May 12th. There are only 40 slots available!
3. Here is the [tentative list of dates](#) for meetings & activities.
4. Safe Environment audit instructions have been sent to your Safe Environment coordinators. This is due back May 15th. Please check to make sure everything is on track.

Save the Date!

- **Math Scoring Dates**
 - Schools North of Buffalo May 5 (3,5,7) & May 6 (4,6,8)
 - Schools South of Buffalo May 9 (3,5,7) & May 10 (4,6,8)
1. Science Scoring for all Schools: June 10 (4,8)
 2. Weekly principal Zooms at 9:30 am on Wednesdays.
 3. 175th Anniversary Mass for the Diocese of Buffalo May 1, 2022
 4. X-Stream Games, May 15, 2022.

5. 175th Anniversary Mass for 8th graders, Sep 13, 2022, 10 am at the Cathedral
6. Diocesan Professional Development Day October 7, 2022 at St. Amelia's.

Resources

1. The "[Shoot for the Stars](#)" one-hour TV special.
2. School Pastor's [Administrative Guide](#)
3. The [Executive Summary](#) of this year's school data.
4. Video recording of [All-schools Mass](#) at OLV with Bishop Fisher. [Here is the link](#) to Dr. Uhl's talk.
5. "[Principal Task List](#)." This is organized as a living Google Doc by month.
6. [Here's a link](#) to the forms on our website.
7. New [Policy Manual](#)
8. New [Operations Manual](#)
9. [Administrator Goal Sheet](#) and the new [Administrator evaluation form](#)

4/5 Office Updates

1. Safe Environment audit instructions have been sent to your Safe Environment coordinators. This is due back May 15th. Please check to make sure everything is on track.

Save the Date!

- **ELA Scoring Dates**
 - Schools North of Buffalo April 4 (3,5,7) & April 6 (4,6,8)
 - Schools South of Buffalo April 7 (3,5,7) & April 8 (4,6,8)
 - **Math Scoring Dates**
 - Schools North of Buffalo May 5 (3,5,7) & May 6 (4,6,8)
 - Schools South of Buffalo May 9 (3,5,7) & May 10 (4,6,8)
1. Science Scoring for all Schools: June 10 (4,8)
 2. Weekly principal Zooms at 9:30 am on Wednesdays.
 3. 175th Anniversary date for the Diocese of Buffalo May 1, 2022
 4. X-Stream Games, May 15, 2022.
 5. 175th Anniversary Mass for 8th graders, Sep 13, 2022, 10 am at the Cathedral
 6. Diocesan Professional Development Day October 7, 2022 at St. Amelia's.

Resources

1. The "[Shoot for the Stars](#)" one-hour TV special.
2. School Pastor's [Administrative Guide](#)
3. The [Executive Summary](#) of this year's school data.
4. Video recording of [All-schools Mass](#) at OLV with Bishop Fisher. [Here is the link](#) to Dr. Uhl's talk.
5. "[Principal Task List](#)." This is organized as a living Google Doc by month.
6. [Here's a link](#) to the forms on our website.

7. New [Policy Manual](#)
8. New [Operations Manual](#)
9. [Administrator Goal Sheet](#) and the new [Administrator evaluation form](#)

March 2022

3/29 Office Updates

1. Principals of all Diocesan parish and regional schools are asked to [please fill out this quick survey](#) to help us build our School Health Scorecards and [respond to this request](#) for a mid-year financial report by the end of March.
2. Safe Environment audit instructions have been sent to your Safe Environment coordinators. This is due back May 15th. Please check to make sure everything is on track.
3. Diocesan [track meet registration form](#) and sign up form for [Spring CPR/First Aid class.](#)
4. [This is the link](#) for NYS test scoring sign up.

Save the Date!

- **ELA Scoring Dates**
 - Schools North of Buffalo April 4 (3,5,7) & April 6 (4,6,8)
 - Schools South of Buffalo April 7 (3,5,7) & April 8 (4,6,8)
 - **Math Scoring Dates**
 - Schools North of Buffalo May 5 (3,5,7) & May 6 (4,6,8)
 - Schools South of Buffalo May 9 (3,5,7) & May 10 (4,6,8)
1. Science Scoring for all Schools: June 10 (4,8)
 2. Weekly principal Zooms at 9:30 am on Wednesdays.
 3. Primetime televised segment to support Catholic Education on Sunday, April 3rd, 2022 from **7:00-8:00 PM** on WBBZ-TV
 4. 175th Anniversary date for the Diocese of Buffalo May 1, 2022
 5. X-Stream Games, May 15, 2022.
 6. 175th Anniversary Mass for 8th graders, Sep 13, 2022, 10 am at the Cathedral
 7. Diocesan Professional Development Day October 7, 2022 at St. Amelia's.

Resources

1. School Pastor's [Administrative Guide](#)
2. The [Executive Summary](#) of this year's school data.
3. Video recording of [All-schools Mass](#) at OLV with Bishop Fisher. [Here is the link](#) to Dr. Uhl's talk.
4. "[Principal Task List](#)." This is organized as a living Google Doc by month.
5. [Here's a link](#) to the forms on our website.
6. New [Policy Manual](#)
7. New [Operations Manual](#)

8. [Administrator Goal Sheet](#) and the new [Administrator evaluation form](#)

3/22 Office Updates

1. Principals of all Diocesan parish and regional schools are asked to [please fill out this quick survey](#) to help us build our School Health Scorecards and [respond to this request](#) for a mid-year financial report by the end of March.
2. Safe Environment audit instructions have been sent to your Safe Environment coordinators. This is due back May 15th. Please check to make sure everything is on track.
3. If you'd like to send a thank you to Mr. Salvatore for your TV, his address is 6675 Transit Rd, Williamsville NY 14221
4. Diocesan [track meet registration form](#) and sign up form for [Spring CPR/First Aid class](#).
5. The banquet to benefit the St. Gianna Center on April 28th. [More information here](#).
6. [This is the link](#) for NYS test scoring sign up.
7. Are you interested in having Bishop Fisher or a member of the DCS staff join your graduation activities? [Please fill out this survey](#) for planning purposes.

Save the Date!

- **ELA Scoring Dates**
 - Schools North of Buffalo April 4 (3,5,7) & April 6 (4,6,8)
 - Schools South of Buffalo April 7 (3,5,7) & April 8 (4,6,8)
 - **Math Scoring Dates**
 - Schools North of Buffalo May 5 (3,5,7) & May 6 (4,6,8)
 - Schools South of Buffalo May 9 (3,5,7) & May 10 (4,6,8)
1. Science Scoring for all Schools: June 10 (4,8)
 2. Weekly principal Zooms at 9:30 am on Wednesdays.
 3. Primetime televised segment to support Catholic Education on Sunday, April 3rd, 2022 from **7:00-8:00 PM** on WBBZ-TV
 4. 175th Anniversary date for the Diocese of Buffalo is April 23, 2022.
 5. X-Stream Games, May 15, 2022.
 6. 175th Anniversary Mass for 8th graders, Sep 13, 2022, 10 am at the Cathedral
 7. Diocesan Professional Development Day October 7, 2022 at St. Amelia's.

Resources

1. School Pastor's [Administrative Guide](#)
2. The [Executive Summary](#) of this year's school data.
3. Video recording of [All-schools Mass](#) at OLV with Bishop Fisher. [Here is the link](#) to Dr. Uhl's talk.
4. "[Principal Task List](#)." This is organized as a living Google Doc by month.
5. [Here's a link](#) to the forms on our website.
6. New [Policy Manual](#)
7. New [Operations Manual](#)
8. [Administrator Goal Sheet](#) and the new [Administrator evaluation form](#)

3/15 Office Updates

1. Principals of all Diocesan parish and regional schools are asked to [please fill out this quick survey](#) to help us build our School Health Scorecards.
2. Diocesan [track meet registration form](#) and sign up form for [Spring CPR/First Aid class](#).
3. The banquet to benefit the St. Gianna Center on April 28th. [More information here](#).
4. [This is the link](#) for NYS test scoring sign up.
5. Are you interested in having Bishop Fisher or a member of the DCS staff join your graduation activities? [Please fill out this survey](#) for planning purposes.

Save the Date!

- **ELA Scoring Dates**
 - Schools North of Buffalo April 4 (3,5,7) & April 6 (4,6,8)
 - Schools South of Buffalo April 7 (3,5,7) & April 8 (4,6,8)
 - **Math Scoring Dates**
 - Schools North of Buffalo May 5 (3,5,7) & May 6 (4,6,8)
 - Schools South of Buffalo May 9 (3,5,7) & May 10 (4,6,8)
1. Science Scoring for all Schools: June 10 (4,8)
 2. Weekly principal Zooms at 9:30 am on Wednesdays.
 3. Primetime televised segment to support Catholic Education on Sunday, April 3rd, 2022 from 8:00-9:00 PM on WBBZ-TV
 4. X-Stream Games, May 15, 2022.
 5. 175th Anniversary Mass for 8th graders, Sep 13, 2022, 10 am at the Cathedral
 6. Diocesan Professional Development Day October 7, 2022 at St. Amelia's.

Resources

1. School Pastor's [Administrative Guide](#)
2. The [Executive Summary](#) of this year's school data.
3. Video recording of [All-schools Mass](#) at OLV with Bishop Fisher. [Here is the link](#) to Dr. Uhl's talk.
4. "[Principal Task List](#)." This is organized as a living Google Doc by month.
5. [Here's a link](#) to the forms on our website.
6. New [Policy Manual](#)
7. New [Operations Manual](#)
8. [Administrator Goal Sheet](#) and the new [Administrator evaluation form](#)

3/8 Office Updates

1. **SMART TV Donation to Diocesan Elementary and High Schools ~ Pick-up Registration** Russ Salvatore, has generously purchased SMART TVs for all Catholic Diocesan Elementary and High Schools throughout WNY. The TVs will be available for

pick up at the Catholic Center Monday-Friday, beginning March 15 –29, between the hours of 9:00 – 10:00 am. Due to limited staffing at the Center, we ask that you send two staff members able to lift 50 lbs. and a vehicle large enough to accommodate the TV (6' in length x 44" tall). Detailed instructions will follow upon registration. **Please register by Friday, March 11.** [Here is the link](#) to schedule your pick up

2. Diplomas, Supplies and Years of Service Certificates will be distributed at this Thursday's Principals' meeting.
3. [This is the link](#) for NYS test scoring sign up.
4. Principals - Please [fill out this questionnaire](#) about renewing Mystery Science at your school. Any schools interested in the School Seedling - Planting for Knowledge program through NYS [go to this website](#) for more information and to apply.
5. Are you interested in having Bishop Fisher or a member of the DCS staff join your for graduation activities? [Please fill out this survey](#) for planning purposes.

Save the Date!

1. March 10th Principal/Pastor meeting. [Here's a copy](#) of the agenda
2. ELA Scoring Dates
 - Schools North of Buffalo April 4 (3,5,7) & April 6 (4,6,8)
 - Schools South of Buffalo April 7 (3,5,7) & April 8 (4,6,8)
3. Math Scoring Dates
 - Schools North of Buffalo May 5 (3,5,7) & May 6 (4,6,8)
 - Schools South of Buffalo May 9 (3,5,7) & May 10 (4,6,8)
4. Science Scoring for all Schools: June 10 (4,8)
5. Weekly principal Zooms at 9:30 am on Wednesdays.
6. Principal meeting with pastors/canonical administrators on Thursday, March 10th
7. Primetime televised segment to support Catholic Education on Sunday, April 3rd, 2022 from 8:00-9:00 PM on WBBZ-TV
8. X-Stream Games, May 15, 2022.
9. 175th Anniversary Mass for 8th graders, Sep 13, 2022, 10 am at the Cathedral
10. Diocesan Professional Development Day October 7, 2022 at St. Amelia's.

Resources

1. School Pastor's [Administrative Guide](#)
2. The [Executive Summary](#) of this year's school data.
3. Video recording of [All-schools Mass](#) at OLV with Bishop Fisher. [Here is the link](#) to Dr. Uhl's talk.
4. "[Principal Task List](#)." This is organized as a living Google Doc by month.
5. [Here's a link](#) to the forms on our website.
6. New [Policy Manual](#)
7. New [Operations Manual](#)
8. [Administrator Goal Sheet](#) and the new [Administrator evaluation form](#)

3/1 Office Updates

1. [Here is the registration form](#) for principal RSVP for the March 10th principal meeting. Please fill out for you and your pastor. [Here's a copy](#) of the agenda.
2. Principals - Please [fill out this questionnaire](#) about renewing Mystery Science at your school. Any schools interested in the School Seedling - Planting for Knowledge program through NYS [go to this website](#) for more information and to apply.
3. Are you interested in having Bishop Fisher or a member of the DCS staff join your for graduation activities? [Please fill out this survey](#) for planning purposes.
4. The [January 25th COVID mitigation memo](#) suggests ways for schools to navigate the post-mask world.

Save the Date!

NYS Test Scoring Schedule [Sign Up here](#)

NYS Test Scorer Training

- Option 1: March 1 3:00-4:30 pm
- Option 2: March 3 1:00-2:30 pm
- Option 3: March 4 9:00-10:30 am

ELA Scoring Dates

- Schools North of Buffalo April 4 (3,5,7) & April 6 (4,6,8)
- Schools South of Buffalo April 7 (3,5,7) & April 8 (4,6,8)

Math Scoring Dates

- Schools North of Buffalo May 5 (3,5,7) & May 6 (4,6,8)
- Schools South of Buffalo May 9 (3,5,7) & May 10 (4,6,8)

Science Scoring for all Schools: June 10 (4,8)

1. Weekly principal Zooms at 9:30 am on Wednesdays.
2. Principal meeting with pastors/canonical administrators on Thursday, March 10th
3. Primetime televised segment to support Catholic Education on Sunday, April 3rd, 2022 from 8:00-9:00 PM on WBBZ-TV
4. X-Stream Games, May 15, 2022.
5. 175th Anniversary Mass for 8th graders, Sep 13, 2022, 10 am at the Cathedral
6. Diocesan Professional Development Day October 7, 2022 at St. Amelia's.

Resources

1. School Pastor's [Administrative Guide](#)
2. The [Executive Summary](#) of this year's school data.
3. Video recording of [All-schools Mass](#) at OLV with Bishop Fisher. [Here is the link](#) to Dr. Uhl's talk.

4. "[Principal Task List](#)." This is organized as a living Google Doc by month.
5. [Here's a link](#) to the forms on our website.
6. New [Policy Manual](#)
7. New [Operations Manual](#)
8. [Administrator Goal Sheet](#) and the new [Administrator evaluation form](#)

February 2022

2/15 Office Updates

1. [Here is the registration form](#) for principal RSVP for the March 10th principal meeting. Please fill out for you and your pastor.
2. The [January 25th COVID mitigation memo](#) suggests ways for schools to navigate the post-mask world.
3. 2022-2023 School Year ~ [Supply Order Form](#) Deadline~ Extended Until Feb. 18th.
4. It is our pleasure to share with you a scholarship opportunity for an eighth grade student who embodies the charism of the late Tim Russert – a student who has strong writing skills, is considered a leader in the classroom, is attune to the political landscape and who exercises critical thinking skills. The scholarship includes a one year, \$2,500 Catholic high school tuition voucher. [Here is the nomination form](#) and additional details about the award.
5. [Here is the nomination form](#) for The Natalie Mattimore Lewis “Kindness Counts Character Award” presented to a seventh grade student. **The deadline for submission is Friday, February 18th, 2022.**

Save the Date!

NYS Test Scoring Schedule [Sign Up here](#)

NYS Test Scorer Training

- Option 1: March 1 3:00-4:30 pm
- Option 2: March 3 1:00-2:30 pm
- Option 3: March 4 9:00-10:30 am

ELA Scoring Dates

- Schools North of Buffalo April 4 (3,5,7) & April 6 (4,6,8)
- Schools South of Buffalo April 7 (3,5,7) & April 8 (4,6,8)

Math Scoring Dates

- Schools North of Buffalo May 5 (3,5,7) & May 6 (4,6,8)
- Schools South of Buffalo May 9 (3,5,7) & May 10 (4,6,8)

Science Scoring for all Schools: June 10 (4,8)

1. Weekly principal Zooms at 9:30 am on Wednesdays.
2. Principal meeting with pastors/canonical administrators on Thursday, March 10th

3. Primetime televised segment to support Catholic Education on Sunday, April 3rd, 2022 from 8:00-9:00 PM on WBBZ-TV
4. X-Stream Games, May 15, 2022.
5. 175th Anniversary Mass for 8th graders, Sep 13, 2022, 10 am at the Cathedral
6. Diocesan Professional Development Day October 7, 2022 at St. Amelia's.

Resources

1. The [Executive Summary](#) of this year's school data.
2. Video recording of [All-schools Mass](#) at OLV with Bishop Fisher. [Here is the link](#) to Dr. Uhl's talk.
3. "[Principal Task List](#)." This is organized as a living Google Doc by month.
4. [Here's a link](#) to the forms on our website.
5. New [Policy Manual](#)
6. New [Operations Manual](#)
7. [Administrator Goal Sheet](#) and the new [Administrator evaluation form](#)

2/8 Office Updates

1. The [January 25th COVID mitigation memo](#) suggests ways for schools to navigate the post-mask world.
2. It is our pleasure to share with you a scholarship opportunity for an eighth grade student who embodies the charism of the late Tim Russert – a student who has strong writing skills, is considered a leader in the classroom, is attune to the political landscape and who exercises critical thinking skills. The scholarship includes a one year, \$2,500 Catholic high school tuition voucher. [Here is the nomination form](#) and additional details about the award.
3. [Here is the nomination form](#) for The Natalie Mattimore Lewis “Kindness Counts Character Award” presented to a seventh grade student. **The deadline for submission is Friday, February 18th, 2022.**

Save the Date!

1. Weekly principal Zooms at 9:30 am on Wednesdays.
2. Principal meeting with pastors/canonical administrators on Thursday, March 10th
3. Primetime televised segment to support Catholic Education on Sunday, April 3rd, 2022 from 8:00-9:00 PM on WBBZ-TV
4. X-Stream Games, May 15, 2022.
5. 175th Anniversary Mass for 8th graders, Sep 13, 2022, 10 am at the Cathedral
6. Diocesan Professional Development Day October 7, 2022 at St. Amelia's.

Resources

1. The [Executive Summary](#) of this year's school data.
2. Video recording of [All-schools Mass](#) at OLV with Bishop Fisher. [Here is the link](#) to Dr. Uhl's talk.
3. "[Principal Task List](#)." This is organized as a living Google Doc by month.

4. [Here's a link](#) to the forms on our website.
5. New [Policy Manual](#)
6. New [Operations Manual](#)
7. [Administrator Goal Sheet](#) and the new [Administrator evaluation form](#)

2/1 Office Updates

1. Please fill out your office/school needs from the Department of Catholic Schools by Friday, February 4th. Here is the 2022-2023 [School Supplies order form](#)
2. The [January 25th COVID mitigation memo](#) suggests ways for schools to navigate the post-mask world.
3. It is our pleasure to share with you a scholarship opportunity for an eighth grade student who embodies the charism of the late Tim Russert – a student who has strong writing skills, is considered a leader in the classroom, is attune to the political landscape and who exercises critical thinking skills. The scholarship includes a one year, \$2,500 Catholic high school tuition voucher. [Here is the nomination form](#) and additional details about the award.
4. [Here is the nomination form](#) for The Natalie Mattimore Lewis “Kindness Counts Character Award” presented to a seventh grade student. **The deadline for submission is Friday, February 18th, 2022.**

Save the Date!

1. Revised [Catholic Schools Week schedule](#)
2. Weekly principal Zooms at 9:30 am on Wednesdays.
3. The National Day of Giving for Catholic Schools is scheduled for Feb 2, 2022. [Here's a link](#) for more information.
4. Primetime televised segment to support Catholic Education on Sunday, April 3rd, 2022 from 8:00-9:00 PM on WBBZ-TV
5. X-Stream Games, May 15, 2022.
6. 175th Anniversary Mass for 8th graders, Sep 13, 2022, 10 am at the Cathedral

Resources

1. The [Executive Summary](#) of this year's school data.
2. Video recording of [All-schools Mass](#) at OLV with Bishop Fisher. [Here is the link](#) to Dr. Uhl's talk.
3. "[Principal Task List](#)." This is organized as a living Google Doc by month.
4. [Here's a link](#) to the forms on our website.
5. New [Policy Manual](#)
6. New [Operations Manual](#)
7. [Administrator Goal Sheet](#) and the new [Administrator evaluation form](#)

January 2022

1/25 Office Updates

1. Today's [January 25th COVID mitigation memo](#) suggests ways for schools to navigate the post-mask world.
2. Please join us in praying for principal Coleen Scott and her family. [Her father, Ralph Casciano](#), passed away last week.
3. 2022-2023 [School Supplies order form](#) for supplies from the Department of Catholic Schools. Orders are due by January 31, 2022
4. It is our pleasure to share with you a scholarship opportunity for an eighth grade student who embodies the charism of the late Tim Russert – a student who has strong writing skills, is considered a leader in the classroom, is attune to the political landscape and who exercises critical thinking skills. The scholarship includes a one year, \$2,500 Catholic high school tuition voucher. [Here is the nomination form](#) and additional details about the award. Please note- the student must include a one page narrative on how their Catholic education has impacted their life. The deadline for submission is Friday, February 18th, 2022. The award will be presented during our primetime televised segment to support Catholic Education on Sunday, April 3rd, 2022 from 8:00-9:00 PM on WBBZ-TV.
5. [Here is the nomination form](#) for The Natalie Mattimore Lewis “Kindness Counts Character Award” presented to a seventh grade student. **The deadline for submission is Friday, February 18th, 2022.** The award will be presented during our primetime televised segment to support Catholic Education on Sunday, April 3rd, 2022 from 8:00-9:00 PM on WBBZ-TV.
6. The site is live to order 4 free COVID tests per household:
<https://special.usps.com/testkits>
7. For resources and information from BPO [click this link](#) for the BPO Education Hub.
8. Are you a teacher interested in free shopping supplies? Here's information on the [Teacher's Corner](#)

Save the Date!

1. Revised [Catholic Schools Week schedule](#)
2. Weekly principal Zooms at 9:30 am on Wednesdays.
3. The National Day of Giving for Catholic Schools is scheduled for Feb 2, 2022. [Here's a link](#) for more information.
4. primetime televised segment to support Catholic Education on Sunday, April 3rd, 2022 from 8:00-9:00 PM on WBBZ-TV
5. X-Stream Games, May 15, 2022.
6. 175th Anniversary Mass for 8th graders, Sep 13, 2022, 10 am at the Cathedral

Resources

1. Video recording of [All-schools Mass](#) at OLV with Bishop Fisher. [Here is the link](#) to Dr. Uhl's talk.
2. "[Principal Task List](#)." This is organized as a living Google Doc by month.

3. [Here's a link](#) to the forms on our website.
4. New [Policy Manual](#)
5. New [Operations Manual](#)
6. [Administrator Goal Sheet](#) and the new [Administrator evaluation form](#)

1/18 Office Updates

1. The site is live to order 4 free COVID tests per household:
<https://special.usps.com/testkits>
2. Are you a teacher interested in free shopping supplies? Here's information on the [Teacher's Corner](#)

Save the Date!

1. Revised [Catholic Schools Week schedule](#)
2. Weekly principal Zooms at 9:30 am on Wednesdays.
3. The National Day of Giving for Catholic Schools is scheduled for Feb 2, 2022. [Here's a link](#) for more information.
4. X-Stream Games, May 15, 2022.
5. 175th Anniversary Mass for 8th graders, Sep 13, 2022, 10 am at the Cathedral

Resources

1. Video recording of [All-schools Mass](#) at OLV with Bishop Fisher. [Here is the link](#) to Dr. Uhl's talk.
2. "[Principal Task List](#)." This is organized as a living Google Doc by month.
3. [Here's a link](#) to the forms on our website.
4. New [Policy Manual](#)
5. New [Operations Manual](#)
6. [Administrator Goal Sheet](#) and the new [Administrator evaluation form](#)

1/11 Office Updates

1. Are you a teacher interested in free shopping supplies? Here's information on the [Teacher's Corner](#)
2. Information on the [St. Thomas More Scholarship](#) can be found here.
3. To better meet the needs of the religious and independent school community, we'd like your input to help us design the RISE 2022 Conference. Please click this link <https://forms.gle/i1xXbYNFrQjRwaA9> to complete a very short questionnaire.
4. We're going to try for an in person meeting on January 13th. One of the reasons we selected St. Andrew's was the ability to social distance. A couple of our presentations will be virtual but a big component of the day is cooperative learning. [Here's a copy of the agenda.](#)

Save the Date!

1. Weekly principal Zooms at 9:30 am on Wednesdays.

2. Administrators Meeting, 8-3, January 13th, St. Andrew Country Day School.
3. Bishop Fisher's schedule for Catholic Schools Week is [listed here](#).
4. The National Day of Giving for Catholic Schools is scheduled for Feb 2, 2022. [Here's a link](#) for more information.
5. X-Stream Games, May 15, 2022.
6. 175th Anniversary Mass for 8th graders, Sep 13, 2022, 10 am at the Cathedral

Resources

1. Video recording of [All-schools Mass](#) at OLV with Bishop Fisher. [Here is the link](#) to Dr. Uhl's talk.
2. "[Principal Task List](#)." This is organized as a living Google Doc by month.
3. [Here's a link](#) to the forms on our website.
4. New [Policy Manual](#)
5. New [Operations Manual](#)
6. [Administrator Goal Sheet](#) and the new [Administrator evaluation form](#)

1/4 Office Updates

1. We're going to try for an in person meeting on January 13th. One of the reasons we selected St. Andrew's was the ability to social distance. A couple of our presentations will be virtual but a big component of the day is cooperative learning. [Here's a copy of the agenda](#).
2. Years of Service Recognition Form - <https://forms.gle/s2BAznMkaCNFc3G67>

Save the Date!

1. Weekly principal Zooms at 9:30 am on Wednesdays.
2. Administrators Meeting, 8-3, January 13th, St. Andrew Country Day School.
3. Cocktails for Catholic Education, January 27 2022, 6-8 pm.
4. Bishop Fisher's schedule for Catholic Schools Week is [listed here](#).
5. The National Day of Giving for Catholic Schools is scheduled for Feb 2, 2022. [Here's a link](#) for more information.
6. X-Stream Games, May 15, 2022.
7. 175th Anniversary Mass for 8th graders, Sep 13, 2022, 10 am at the Cathedral

Resources

1. Video recording of [All-schools Mass](#) at OLV with Bishop Fisher. [Here is the link](#) to Dr. Uhl's talk.
2. "[Principal Task List](#)." This is organized as a living Google Doc by month.
3. [Here's a link](#) to the forms on our website.
4. New [Policy Manual](#)
5. New [Operations Manual](#)
6. [Administrator Goal Sheet](#) and the new [Administrator evaluation form](#)

December 2022

12/14 Office Updates

1. Reminder that we are asking for all our Diocesan schools to follow a one spectator per athlete for our basketball league. Per NY state order, masks are required in schools.
2. Registration Form for January 13, 2022 Principals Meeting - <https://forms.gle/MvFa9R2Jhrdw6moQ8>
3. Years of Service Recognition Form - <https://forms.gle/s2BAznMkaCNFc3G67>
4. If you'd like to nominate a great Catholic school teacher for the "Making a Difference" award, the deadline is December 31st. [Here is more information.](#)
5. [Please fill out this](#) retention & enrollment prework by the end of December.

Save the Date!

1. Weekly principal Zooms at 9:30 am on Wednesdays.
2. Administrators Meeting, 8-3, January 13th, St. Andrew Country Day School.
3. Cocktails for Catholic Education, January 27 2022, 6-8 pm.
4. Bishop Fisher's schedule for Catholic Schools Week is [listed here](#).
5. The National Day of Giving for Catholic Schools is scheduled for Feb 2, 2022. [Here's a link](#) for more information.
6. X-Stream Games, May 15, 2022.
7. 175th Anniversary Mass for 8th graders, Sep 13, 2022, 10 am at the Cathedral

Resources

1. Video recording of [All-schools Mass](#) at OLV with Bishop Fisher. [Here is the link](#) to Dr. Uhl's talk.
2. ["Principal Task List"](#). This is organized as a living Google Doc by month.
3. [Here's a link](#) to the forms on our website.
4. New [Policy Manual](#)
5. New [Operations Manual](#)
6. [Administrator Goal Sheet](#) and the new [Administrator evaluation form](#)

12/7 Office Updates

1. Reminder that we are asking for all our Diocesan schools to follow a one spectator per athlete for our basketball league. Per NY state order, masks are required in schools.
2. Registration Form for January 13, 2022 Principals Meeting - <https://forms.gle/MvFa9R2Jhrdw6moQ8>
3. Years of Service Recognition Form - <https://forms.gle/s2BAznMkaCNFc3G67>
4. If you'd like to nominate a great Catholic school teacher for the "Making a Difference" award, the deadline is December 31st. [Here is more information.](#)
5. [Please fill out this](#) retention & enrollment prework by the end of December.

Save the Date!

1. Weekly principal Zooms at 9:30 am on Wednesdays. This week we're going to talk about the enrollment & retention efforts.
2. Administrators Meeting, 8-3, January 13th, St. Andrew Country Day School.
3. Cocktails for Catholic Education, January 27 2022, 6-8 pm.
4. Bishop Fisher's schedule for Catholic Schools Week is [listed here](#).
5. The National Day of Giving for Catholic Schools is scheduled for Feb 2, 2022. [Here's a link](#) for more information.
6. X-Stream Games, May 15, 2022.
7. 175th Anniversary Mass for 8th graders, Sep 13, 2022, 10 am at the Cathedral

Resources

1. Video recording of [All-schools Mass](#) at OLV with Bishop Fisher. [Here is the link](#) to Dr. Uhl's talk.
2. "[Principal Task List](#)." This is organized as a living Google Doc by month.
3. [Here's a link](#) to the forms on our website.
4. New [Policy Manual](#)
5. New [Operations Manual](#)
6. [Administrator Goal Sheet](#) and the new [Administrator evaluation form](#)

November 2022

11/30 Office Updates

1. St. Joseph University School is looking to hire a Cafeteria Manager. The position is part-time and we would be willing to share a Manager with another school. The hours and the pay are negotiable. Please contact Mark Mattle at SJUS, (716) 833-6550, mmattle@stjosephbuffalo.org
2. If you'd like to nominate a great Catholic school teacher for the "Making a Difference" award, the deadline is December 31st. [Here is more information](#).
3. Bishop Fisher [wrote a letter](#) encouraging vaccinations in September in case you'd like to use it now.
4. If you'd like your school's open house listed on our website, please send to Cathryn.
5. CSAANYYS has partnered with St. John's University to organize an Emerging Leaders Institute for those teachers interested in becoming principals. [Here's a flyer](#) with more information.

Save the Date!

1. Weekly principal Zooms at 9:30 am on Wednesdays. We're going to check in on the teacher evaluation process.
2. The National Day of Giving for Catholic Schools is scheduled for Feb 2, 2022. [Here's a link](#) for more information.
3. X-Stream Games, May 15, 2022.
4. 175th Anniversary Mass for 8th graders, Sep 13, 2022, 10 am at the Cathedral

Resources

1. Video recording of [All-schools Mass](#) at OLV with Bishop Fisher. [Here is the link](#) to Dr. Uhl's talk.
2. "[Principal Task List](#)." This is organized as a living Google Doc by month.
3. [Here's a link](#) to the forms on our website.
4. New [Policy Manual](#)
5. New [Operations Manual](#)
6. [Administrator Goal Sheet](#) and the new [Administrator evaluation form](#)

11/23 Office Updates

1. If you'd like to nominate a great Catholic school teacher for the "Making a Difference" award, the deadline is December 31st. [Here is more information.](#)
2. Bishop Fisher [wrote a letter](#) encouraging vaccinations in September in case you'd like to use it now.
3. If you'd like your school's open house listed on our website, please send to Cathryn.
4. CSAANYS has partnered with St. John's University to organize an Emerging Leaders Institute for those teachers interested in becoming principals. [Here's a flyer](#) with more information.

Save the Date!

1. Weekly principal Zooms at 9:30 am on Wednesdays. Nothing scheduled this week!
2. The National Day of Giving for Catholic Schools is scheduled for Feb 2, 2022. [Here's a link](#) for more information.
3. 175th Anniversary Mass for 8th graders, Sep 13, 2022, 10 am at the Cathedral

Resources

1. [All-schools Mass](#) at OLV with Bishop Fisher. [Here is the link](#) to Dr. Uhl's talk.
2. "[Principal Task List](#)." This is organized as a living Google Doc by month.
3. [Here's a link](#) to the forms on our website.
4. New [Policy Manual](#)
5. New [Operations Manual](#)
6. [Administrator Goal Sheet](#) and the new [Administrator evaluation form](#)

11/16 Office Updates

1. If you'd like your school's open house listed on our website, please send to Cathryn.
2. The BPO shares in the disappointment that we will be unable to host our Catholic students at Kleinhans Music Hall this school year. In the meantime, we will be offering a video production of our **Orchestra at Work** and **Melody and Meaning** youth programs to be viewed on demand in schools! These programs will be available in January 2022 through the end of the school year. We will be posting this video content in our [Music for Youth Education Hub](#), which already has lots of great musical content for use right now!

Registration for the Hub is free for all Catholic schools, so please join us there for some educational and inspirational music! we look forward to hosting you again in the 2022-23 school year!

3. CSAANYs has partnered with St. John's University to organize an Emerging Leaders Institute for those teachers interested in becoming principals. [Here's a flyer](#) with more information.

Save the Date!

1. Weekly principal Zooms at 9:30 am on Wednesdays. This week we'll have an open forum
2. 175th Anniversary Mass for 8th graders, Sep 13, 2022, 10 am at the Cathedral

Resources

1. [All-schools Mass](#) at OLV with Bishop Fisher. [Here is the link](#) to Dr. Uhl's talk.
2. "[Principal Task List](#)." This is organized as a living Google Doc by month.
3. [Here's a link](#) to the forms on our website.
4. New [Policy Manual](#)
5. New [Operations Manual](#)
6. [Administrator Goal Sheet](#) and the new [Administrator evaluation form](#)

11/9 Office Updates

1. Grade 8 Graduating Class of 2022 Diploma Order Form. **Orders are due by Friday, November 12th** .
<https://forms.gle/cQLqio2WS4Adr17P6>
2. The BPO concert has been canceled.
3. If you'd like your school's open house listed on our website, please send to Cathryn.

Save the date!

1. Weekly principal Zooms at 9:30 am on Wednesdays. This week we'll discuss lesson plans--when to collect, best formats, etc.
2. School [Visit Schedule](#)

Resources

1. [All-schools Mass](#) at OLV with Bishop Fisher. [Here is the link](#) to Dr. Uhl's talk.
2. "[Principal Task List](#)." This is organized as a living Google Doc by month.
3. [Here's a link](#) to the forms on our website.
4. New [Policy Manual](#)
5. New [Operations Manual](#)
6. [Administrator Goal Sheet](#) and the new [Administrator evaluation form](#)

11/2 Office Updates

1. [Here's the link](#) to the registration form for the November CPR/First Aid class.
2. Last week we had special guests on the Wednesday Zoom to explain the [Oishei Scholarship](#).
3. NCEA is proud to continue the **NCEA Youth Virtues, Valor and Vision Award Program** that will formally recognize extraordinary young people in our Catholic schools who

through their selfless service, innovation and commitment to social justice are changing the world. [Here is the link](#) for more information.

4. Do you need support deciding which standards are the most important as we continue to make up lost instructional time? Take a look at these [Focus Skills](#) from our friends at Renaissance.

Save the Date!

1. Weekly principal Zooms at 9:30 am on Wednesdays. This week we'll discuss the November task list.
2. School [Visit Schedule](#)
3. Diocese of Buffalo Catholic days at the BPO Jan 18th

Resources

1. [All-schools Mass](#) at OLV with Bishop Fisher. [Here is the link](#) to Dr. Uhl's talk.
2. "[Principal Task List](#)." This is organized as a living Google Doc by month.
3. [Here's a link](#) to the forms on our website.
4. New [Policy Manual](#)
5. New [Operations Manual](#)
6. [Administrator Goal Sheet](#) and the new [Administrator evaluation form](#)

October 2022

10/26 Office Updates

1. [Here's the link](#) to the registration form for the November CPR/First Aid class.
2. **ALBERT LENHARD FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP**
The Albert Lenhard Family Scholarship Fund was established in 1985 through a bequest of the estate of Albert M. Lenhard. The Scholarship was developed to assist applicants who wanted to continue their formal education beyond high school at the undergraduate and graduate levels. To be eligible for the Scholarship the candidate will have to be residing in the geographic boundaries of the Catholic Churches of Central Buffalo: (Blessed Trinity, SS Columba Brigid, St. Ann, St. Katherine Drexel, St. Lawrence, and St. Martin De Porres). The Lenhard Scholarship fund is administered by the pastor of St. Martin De Porres in collaboration with the African American Commission of the Diocese of Buffalo and the director of the Office of Cultural Diversity. This Scholarship is awarded annually. You may apply every year, but you are not guaranteed to receive an award yearly.
3. **MARTIN LUTHER KING SCHOLARSHIP**
The Martin Luther King Jr. Scholarship was established in 1987 to help an 8th-grade student in attaining a Catholic High School Education. The African American Commission through its Scholarship Committee, awards scholarships to 8th-grade students for continuing their education in a Catholic High School. Our goal is to support our recipients so they may continue to serve in their churches, in their communities, and their world. Applicants for this award must meet the criteria stated below.

To be eligible for the Scholarship Program applicants must:

1. Be actively involved in their parish/ church, (religion classes, retreats, parish or diocesan activities, youth group, lector, altar server, etc.)
2. Engage in service at the parish/church, school, and in their communities.
3. Applicant shall have a minimum grade point average of 2.5 (high school cumulative). A current official transcript must be sent to The Office of Cultural Diversity, 795 Main Street, Buffalo, NY 14203.
4. Be a member of an ethnic minority group.

Save the Date!

1. Weekly principal Zooms at 9:30 am on Wednesdays. This week we'll discuss our strategic priorities.
2. School Administrators meeting (in person) October 28th at OLV, 8:30-2:30. [Please fill out this survey](#) in advance. Here is the link to a [map of OLV](#) and [here are the directions](#) to enter the building.
3. School [Visit Schedule](#)
4. Diocese of Buffalo Catholic days at the BPO Jan 18th

Resources

1. "[Principal Task List](#)." This is organized as a living Google Doc by month.
2. [Here's a link](#) to the forms on our website.
3. New [Policy Manual](#)
4. New [Operations Manual](#)
5. [Administrator Goal Sheet](#) and the new [Administrator evaluation form](#)

10/19 Office Updates

1. Basketball update: Under the current COVID conditions, we are implementing the following guidance for our basketball league: one spectator per participant will be allowed, masks are required for spectators, social distancing is encouraged, and ventilation should be emphasized. [Here is the link](#) to First Aid/CPR training in November.
2. Safe Environment for Children programs must be completed by November 1st.
3. [Link here](#) for the Catholic Schools Day at the BPO (Jan 18, 2022). [Here's the link](#) to the registration form.

Save the Date!

1. Weekly principal Zooms at 9:30 am on Wednesdays. This week we'll have an open Q & A.
2. Diocesan Advisory Council meeting October 21st.
3. School Administrators meeting (in person) October 28th at OLV, 8:30-2:30. [Please fill out this survey](#) in advance. Here is the link to a [map of OLV](#) and [here are the directions](#) to enter the building.
4. School [Visit Schedule](#)
5. Diocese of Buffalo Catholic days at the BPO Jan 18th

Resources

1. "[Principal Task List](#)." This is organized as a living Google Doc by month.
2. [Here's a link](#) to the forms on our website.

3. New [Policy Manual](#)
4. New [Operations Manual](#)
5. [Administrator Goal Sheet](#) and the new [Administrator evaluation form](#)

10/12 Office Updates

1. Safe Environment for Children programs must be completed by November 1st.
2. The Catholic Charities Help Line is 716-218-1419. This number should be widely distributed.
3. If you have questions about the Catholic Charities Annual Fund, Stephanie George can be reached at 716-218-1400
4. [Link here](#) for the Catholic Schools Day at the BPO (Jan 18, 2022). [Here's the link](#) to the registration form.
5. Registration has begun for the free annual Religious and Independent Schools Educators (RISE) conference taking place virtually on November 9th and 10th. Here are the Links for more information: [RISE Conference | nyscirs](#) and [Program](#). To register, go to [RISE 2021 Conference Registration Form \(google.com\)](#)
6. October is Respect Life Month. If your school is interested in sponsoring one of the 5 families at the Mother Teresa Home by purchasing Christmas gifts or raising money for gift cards, let us know. This is a great way to promote life issues.

Save the Date!

1. Weekly principal Zooms at 9:30 am on Wednesdays. This week we'll have an open Q & A.
2. Diocesan Advisory Council meeting October 21st.
3. School Administrators meeting (in person) October 28th at OLV, 8:30-2:30
4. School [Visit Schedule](#)
5. Diocese of Buffalo Catholic days at the BPO Jan 18th

Resources

1. "[Principal Task List](#)." This is organized as a living Google Doc by month.
2. [Here's a link](#) to the forms on our website.
3. New [Policy Manual](#)
4. New [Operations Manual](#)
5. [Administrator Goal Sheet](#) and the new [Administrator evaluation form](#)

10/8 Office Updates

1. On Friday, October 8th the Department of Catholic Schools will be hosting an All-Schools Mass at Our Lady of Victory Basilica in Lackawanna. The activities will begin at 8:00 AM and end at 11:30 AM. As a reminder we strongly encourage all schools to ask their teachers to please carpool. All people will be required to mask during the event. [Here's a link](#) to a map showing where parking is available. Please carpool.

2. We were hoping to gather everyone together in person. However, we realize that certain schools are struggling with outbreaks AND many people are fearful to gather in large groups. Notes:
 - We are putting out additional folding chairs so the capacity of the large, airy basilica will be over 1200 people. If all 700 who RSVPed arrive, there should be availability to distance.
 - We are asking school groups to carpool sit together.
 - If livestream is necessary, we are asking schools to have watch parties at the school. [Here is the link.](#)
 - [Here is the link](#) to the Mass program
1. [Link here](#) for the Catholic Schools Day at the BPO (Jan 18, 2022). [Here's the link](#) to the registration form.
2. Registration has begun for the free annual Religious and Independent Schools Educators (RISE) conference taking place virtually on November 9th and 10th. Here are the Links for more information: [RISE Conference | nyscirs](#) and [Program](#). To register, go to [RISE 2021 Conference Registration Form \(google.com\)](#)
3. The Erie County DA Office has offered to speak to your students about cyberbullying and internet threats. Contact Assistant DA Danielle D'Abate at 858-2431
4. October is Respect Life Month. If your school is interested in sponsoring one of the 5 families at the Mother Teresa Home by purchasing Christmas gifts or raising money for gift cards, let us know. This is a great way to promote life issues.

Save the Date!

1. Weekly principal Zooms at 9:30 am on Wednesdays. This week we'll be hearing from Catholic Charities about the annual fund.
2. Diocesan Advisory Council meeting October 21st.
3. School Administrators meeting (in person) October 28th at OLV, 8:30-2:30
4. School [Visit Schedule](#)
5. Diocese of Buffalo Catholic days at the BPO Jan 18th

Resources

1. "[Principal Task List](#)." This is organized as a living Google Doc by month.
2. [Here's a link](#) to the forms on our website.
3. New [Policy Manual](#)
4. New [Operations Manual](#)
5. [Administrator Goal Sheet](#) and the new [Administrator evaluation form](#)

September 2022

9/28 Office Updates

1. On Friday, October 8th the Department of Catholic Schools will be hosting an All-Schools Mass at Our Lady of Victory Basilica in Lackawanna. The activities will begin at 8:00 AM and end at 11:30 AM. As a reminder we strongly encourage all schools to ask their teachers to please carpool. All people will be required to mask during the event.

2. [Link here](#) for the Catholic Schools Day at the BPO (Jan 18, 2022). [Here's the link](#) to the registration form.
3. Registration has begun for the free annual Religious and Independent Schools Educators (RISE) conference taking place virtually on November 9th and 10th. This is an excellent professional development opportunity for you and your teachers, with many of the sessions taking place after school ends. Here are the Links for more information: [RISE Conference | nyscirs](#) and [Program](#). To register, go to [RISE 2021 Conference Registration Form \(google.com\)](#)

Save the Date!

1. Weekly principal Zooms at 9:30 am on Wednesdays.
2. School [Visit Schedule](#)
3. Catechetical Day (morning, 8:30-11:30) October 8th, OLV Basilica
4. Diocese of Buffalo Catholic days at the BPO Jan 18th

Resources

1. "[Principal Task List](#)." This is organized as a living Google Doc by month.
2. [Here's a link](#) to the forms on our website.
3. New [Policy Manual](#)
4. New [Operations Manual](#)

9/21 Office Updates

1. Please fill out the [principal goal setting form](#) and return one copy to Mary Tepley. This is based on the 4 domains of the National Standards & Benchmarks.
2. [Link here](#) for the Catholic Schools Day at the BPO (Jan 18, 2022). [Here's the link](#) to the registration form.
3. Just a friendly reminder that the FICE mini-grant applications are due September 30. Any questions, please contact Shelly Reidy.
4. Registration has begun for the free annual Religious and Independent Schools Educators (RISE) conference taking place virtually on November 9th and 10th. This is an excellent professional development opportunity for you and your teachers, with many of the sessions taking place after school ends. Here are the Links for more information: [RISE Conference | nyscirs](#) and [Program](#). To register, go to [RISE 2021 Conference Registration Form \(google.com\)](#)

Save the Date!

1. Weekly principal Zooms at 9:30 am on Wednesdays.
2. School [Visit Schedule](#)
3. Catechetical Day (morning, 8:30-11:30) October 8th, OLV Basilica
4. Diocese of Buffalo Catholic days at the BPO Jan 18th

Resources

1. "[Principal Task List](#)." This is organized as a living Google Doc by month.
2. [Here's a link](#) to the forms on our website.

3. New [Policy Manual](#)
4. New [Operations Manual](#)

9/14 Office Updates

1. A survey went out last week asking for numbers who will attend the Oct 8th All-Schools Mass for Catholic school personnel. Please get that back to us ASAP.
2. [Link here](#) for the Catholic Schools Day at the BPO (Jan 18, 2022).

Save the Date!

1. Weekly principal Zooms at 9:30 am on Wednesdays.
2. School [Visit Schedule](#)
3. Catechetical Day (morning, 8:30-11:30) October 8th, OLV Basilica
4. Diocese of Buffalo Catholic days at the BPO Jan 18th

Resources

1. "[Principal Task List](#)." This is organized as a living Google Doc by month. If you look at this month's required tasks, pay special attention to the Safe Environment requirements. You need to get all your parent volunteers trained and make sure that all background checks have been conducted on new employees.
2. [Here's a link](#) to the forms on our website.
3. New [Policy Manual](#)
4. New [Operations Manual](#)

9/7 Office Updates

1. We would like to collect the names and emails of your Board chairs. Thanks to the 27 schools who have done so. For the others, please fill out [this 30 second survey](#).
2. Elementary Athletics will start Oct 1st and conclude by November 19. There is a meeting planned for Sep 13 for volleyball coaches, Sept 16th for Athletic Directors, and [First Aid/CPR classes](#) are scheduled for Sept 20 & 22. If you have any questions, please call Brian Kiszewski at 716-866-5081. Masks are required inside school buildings so if volleyball practices or games are held at a school, everyone will need to be masked. Outdoor activities and volleyball practices/games held at other sites may not require masks, depending on the site.
3. Attention principals! Do you have new teachers that were unable to attend the New Teacher Orientation? If so please email their name, grade, and contact information to kbuchinger@buffalodiocese.org. We want to be sure they receive information about our new teacher zooms this year.
4. The first draft of this year's School Directory is finished. This will be emailed to you this afternoon along with the link to the recurring Zoom. After today, it will live in the principal portal.

Save the Date!

1. Weekly principal Zooms at 9:30 am. Email sent separately
2. Annual Regional School Board meetings Sep 13 & 15, 2-4 pm.
3. School [Visit Schedule](#)

4. Catechetical Day (morning, 8:30-11:30) October 8th, OLV Basilica

Resources

1. "[Principal Task List](#)." This is organized as a living Google Doc by month.
2. [Here's a link](#) to the forms on our website.
3. New [Policy Manual](#)
4. New [Operations Manual](#)

August 2022

8/31 Office Updates

1. We would like to collect the names and emails of your Board chairs. Thanks to the 21 schools who have done so. For the others, please fill out [this 30 second survey](#).
2. We have received applications for the PLNs and the Faith Formation Pilot Groups. It looks like we'll have 2 Operational Vitality PLNs and 1 Mission PLN. There are 9 schools signed up to be pilot groups. We'll be reaching out to the individuals/schools directly to set things up.
3. We have scheduled the annual meetings for Regional School Boards Sep 13 & 15. Look for an email with instructions.
4. Elementary Athletics should start Oct 1st. There is a meeting planned for Sep 13 for all Athletic Directors & fall coaches and First Aid/CPR classes are scheduled for Sept 20 & 22

Save the Date!

1. Weekly principal Zooms at 9:30 am. Email sent separately
2. Annual Regional School Board meetings Sep 13 & 15, 2-4 pm.
3. School [Visit Schedule](#)
4. Catechetical Day (morning, 8:30-11:30) October 8th, OLV Basilica

Resources

1. As we work to transform our website to be more user-friendly with resources, we'll be rolling out resources. The first is our "[Principal Task List](#)." This is organized as a living Google Doc by month.
2. [Here's a link](#) to the forms on our website.

8/24 Office Updates

1. There is [new guidance](#) from the Erie County of Health. Masks and screenings are now required
2. We would like to collect the names and emails of your Board chairs. Please fill out [this 30 second survey](#).
3. Are you encountering any last minute teacher openings that you can't fill? Dr. Tom Burnford from Catholic Virtual is going to schedule some Zoom times on Wed, August 25th. Email him for the Zoom invite: tom.burnford@catholicvirtual.com

4. We are on track for our weekly 9:30 am (optional) principal Zooms. All principals, presidents, and assistant principals from Catholic schools in the Diocese of Buffalo are welcome to join us. Mary Tepley has sent out the Zoom link. If you haven't received it, reach out to Mary. This week (tomorrow), join us as we talk COVID!
5. Please fill out your textbook survey that Shelly Reidy sent out last week.
6. The deadline to apply for one of the PLNs and the Faith Formation pilot groups is this Friday.

Save the Date!

1. School [Visit Schedule](#)
2. New Principal and New Teachers meeting August 26th, 1-4 pm, UB Newman Center. RSVP on the portal.

Resources

1. For those of you who asked about the online catechist course entitled "Spirituality for Teachers & Catechists" [More information](#) here.
2. Here is the [link to the information](#) for our August 18th meeting, [Here is the link](#) to the slide deck for the meeting, and [here is the link](#) to Dr. Abelein's presentation.
3. As we work to transform our website to be more user-friendly with resources, we'll be rolling out resources. The first is our "[Principal Task List](#)." This is organized as a living Google Doc by month.

8/11 Office Updates

1. You still have time to [register](#) for the Healey Foundation's Summer Summit for Catholic School Boards! On Tuesday, August 17, join nearly 100 Board Chairs, Board Members, Principals, Advancement Directors, Pastors and others who have already signed up for this one-day opportunity to learn and collaborate. Let's launch into the 2021-22 school year together through this informative, interactive virtual program beginning 8:00am CDT / 9:00am EDT. [Read the Top 5 Reasons to Participate](#) (PDF) & [Visit our website](#) for more details on session topics, panelists and presenters [Register today](#), selecting the Full-Day Admission (FREE). After you've registered, within the app you can customize your schedule, including adding or excluding sessions on your calendar. You'll also receive confirmation and future correspondence via Whova, our event management platform.
2. Upon This Rock STREAM grant applications are due Sept 15th. [Link here](#).

Save the Date!

1. Principal meeting August 18th, 8:30-2:30 at UB Newman Center. RSVP on the portal
2. New Principal and New Teachers meeting August 26th, 1-4 pm, UB Newman Center. RSVP on the portal.
3. Diocesan Catechetical Day, October 8th, 8:30-11:30 at Our Lady of Victory Basilica. Mass at 8:30 am celebrated by Bishop Fisher, then keynote to wrap up by 11:30. RSVP on the portal. Schools are encouraged to conduct professional development in the afternoon by region.

4. Due to scheduling issues brought on by the pandemic, the BPO concert date has been moved to Tuesday, January 18, 2022. [Link to flyer.](#)

Resources

1. Here is the [link to the information](#) for our August 18th meeting
2. [Here is the link](#) to the slide deck for the meeting that I'll build up until the day of the meeting.
3. As we work to transform our website to be more user-friendly with resources, we'll be rolling out resources. The first is our "[Principal Task List](#)." This is organized as a living Google Doc by month.

8/4 Office Updates

1. A new funding model has been proposed where pastors without schools will send a per-pupil subsidy to Catholic schools who enroll one of its parishioners. [Here is the link](#) to the recommendation and here is the recommended [parish verification form](#). Please pay attention to the fact that this is voluntary and not every parish/pastor may participate at this level.
2. Fr. Bryan sent out a Road to Renewal update earlier this month. [Here is a link](#) to the letter
3. Fall sports are looking to be as normal as possible. Please make sure to send in your AD and PE teachers ASAP.
4. The new job posting form can be found on the portal. Please send your postings to dcs@buffalodiocese.org
5. Here are the latest job openings:
6. OLV in Lackawanna is looking for a part-time music teacher, a full-time PE teacher, a Spanish teacher, a 5th grade teacher, and a Middle School English teacher
7. Ss. Peter & Paul in Hamburg is looking for part-time music and art teachers.

Save the Date!

1. Principal meeting August 18th, 8:30-2:30 at UB Newman Center. RSVP on the portal
2. New Principal and New Teachers meeting August 26th, 1-4 pm, UB Newman Center. RSVP on the portal.
3. Diocesan Catechetical Day, October 8th, 8:30-11:30 at Our Lady of Victory Basilica. Mass at 8:30 am celebrated by Bishop Fisher, then keynote to wrap up by 11:30. RSVP on the portal. Schools are encouraged to conduct professional development in the afternoon by region.
4. Due to scheduling issues brought on by the pandemic, the BPO concert date has been moved to Tuesday, January 18, 2022. [Link to flyer.](#)

Resources

As we work to transform our website to be more user-friendly with resources, we'll be rolling out resources. The first is our "[Principal Task List](#)." This is organized as a living Google Doc by month. I say "living" because we'll continue to add hyperlinks, other resources, and work to perfect this as we move along. When the calendar turns, take a look at what needs to be done!