



ST. PIUS X REGIONAL SCHOOL NEWS NOTES

August 17, 2017



SPECIAL EDITION

UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday, August 21

*Last day to order September lunch through Main & Market

Tuesday, August 22

*Middle School Parent meeting about Chrome Books, 5:00—7:00pm in Nelson Hall

Wednesday, August 23

*Parent Orientation for those with Pre-K and K students, 7:00pm in children's classroom. Parents only - no students.

Thursday, August 24

*Informal Open House, 9:00 to 10:30am

*All 6th Grade, and New 7th and 8th grade Student Orientation, 10:30am to 12noon

*Orientation for parents with new students in grades 1-8, 7:00pm in Nelson Hall

Tuesday, August 29

*First day of school

8:00am start for grades 5-8

8:10am start for grades 1-4

Dismissal at 1:00pm for grades 1-8

*Pre-K and K students - Please refer to the letters you received from your teacher for your designated start date (either Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday from 8:30am to 11:00am)

Wednesday, August 30

*First full day of school for grades 1-8

* Milk service begins for students in grades 1-8

* ESP (morning care and aftercare) begins for students in grades 1-8

Friday, September 1

*First full day of school for Pre-K and K students

*ESP begins for students in Pre-K and K

Monday, September 4, No School, Labor Day Holiday

Tuesday, September 5

*ESP Parent Meeting, 6:00pm in Nelson Hall

*First day of lunch deliveries from Lunchbox

Thursday, September 7

*Middle School Parent Meeting (Mandatory), 7:00pm in Nelson Hall

Please check the school calendar for more information:

<http://www.stpiusbowie.org/school-life/calendar/>

ORIENTATION FOR PK AND K PARENTS - AUGUST 23

Parents of Kindergarten and Pre-K students will have orientation on Wednesday, August 23rd at 7pm in their child's classroom. This evening is for parents only, and **students may not attend**. All Pre-K and K parents should have received a letter from their child's teacher this month. Please contact the school if you have not received any correspondence from your Pre-K or Kindergarten teacher.



INFORMAL OPEN HOUSE - AUGUST 24



Current families are welcome to join us on Thursday, August 24th from 9:00am to 10:30am for an informal Open House. Parents and children may come visit the school, find their homeroom, and meet their teacher. Class rosters will be posted in the school lobby. Children are welcome to attend, but they should be accompanied by an adult and may not be left unsupervised. Children are also encouraged to bring in their school supplies so they won't have too much to carry on the first day of school.

NEW 7TH AND 8TH GRADE STUDENTS AND ALL 6TH GRADE STUDENTS ORIENTATION - AUGUST 24

All 6th grade students and new students in 7th and 8th grade are required to attend the orientation on Thursday, August 24th from 10:30am to 12noon. Students will have an opportunity to meet the middle school teachers, go over the routines, locate classrooms, and get answers to those "first day in a new school questions". Dress is casual.



MIDDLE SCHOOL PARENT MEETING ABOUT CHROME BOOK USAGE TUESDAY, AUGUST 22



NEW this year... Our Middle School students in grades 6-8 will be assigned a Chrome Book for use during the school year. We will have an informational meeting for parents about Chrome Book usage on Tuesday, August 22 from 5:00 to 7:00pm in Nelson Hall. This meeting is for parents only - no students please.

NEW PARENT ORIENTATION - AUGUST 24



New parent orientation for those families with new students in grades 1 through 8, will be on Thursday August 24th at 7:00pm in Nelson Hall. This special orientation is for parents only and students may not attend.

AUGUST 29TH IS THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL FOR GRADES 1 - 8. PK AND K SEE NOTES ABOVE.

LUNCH TIME

St. Pius X Regional School is working with Main & Market to provide a healthy portion controlled lunches for our school. Main & Market is looking forward to supplying our school with great food and service. Main and Market partners with BOONLI (former name Order Lunches) to provide a secure, fast and easy to use online ordering program. Main & Market/BOONLI allow parents and faculty to view our lunch menu, order, prepay and manage their lunches online. Student and Faculty Accounts, User Names and User Passwords will remain the same as last year. Credits on file from last year have carried over to this school year. Boonli has updated the look of their program, and they have made the program even more user-friendly. Each lunch costs \$5.00 and you have the option of ordering an extra entrée for just an additional \$1.25. The monthly menu provides a wide variety to choose from so that students are able to experience different foods, with an emphasis on fresh, seasonal, and local foods. Open ordering period for September Lunches will be from 7/26-8/21. There will be NO Late Ordering Period for September Lunches. If you are interested in ordering from Main & Market, you will need to register online at [HTTPS://MAINANDMARKET.BOONLI.COM](https://mainandmarket.boonli.com) with our school password of CAVALIER22. Lunch order deliveries will begin on September 5th for those who have ordered by August 21st. More details are available on our website. If you have questions, you should call Main & Market at 1-800-381-6511 ext. 1 or email them at support@boonli.com.



Milk order forms will be sent home at the informal Open house on Thursday, August 24th or the first day of school. The first day of milk service will be Wednesday, August 30th for students in grades 1-8. PreK and K students will have milk service starting Friday, September 1st.



PIZZA!

Information about special lunches such as Chick-fil-A day and Pizza day will be sent home soon. Special lunch days will start in October.



LATE PICK-UP POLICY: Families whose children are not picked-up from school by 3:30pm on a regular dismissal day and 1:30pm on an early dismissal day will be charged a fee of \$1.00 per minute per child for each minute beyond 3:30 or 1:30pm. This policy will go into effect on Tuesday, September 5th.

PARENT AND STUDENT PORTALS



Rediker PlusPortals gives you secure access to your child's grades, scores, attendance, discipline record and homework. Parents can also access school announcements, alerts, parent directory, and the school calendar. This platform will create a strong connection between school and family by sharing information that is critical to students' success and learning.

Access to the Parent and Student Portals will be opened on August 24th. New families will receive an email with instructions. Returning families will still have access to their prior account with their same username and password. For interactive guides on how to use the Parent Portal, click here: <http://redikersupport.com/documentation/parentplus.htm>. We are currently not using the E-Locker function.

WALKER'S PASSES



WALKER'S PASSES will be required for those students who walk home (or to caregivers). Students who do not live in a surrounding neighborhood will not be issued a Walker's Pass and are expected to be picked up and dropped off on school property (translation—you may NOT park your car in a surrounding street and have your child meet you there). These rules apply to everyone and are enforced to keep children safe. Walker's Pass applications will be sent home the first day of school and will be required on September 11th.

UNIFORMS

Carousel Uniforms made the first delivery of school uniforms last week. Anyone who was not contacted last week, will have uniforms delivered on Thursday, August 24th, at the Informal Open House. Carousel will make deliveries once a week at school so you won't have to make the drive to Waldorf. You may contact Carousel directly with any questions regarding your student's uniform 301-843-8884. Uniform requirements may be found on pages 17-20 in the Parent Student Handbook (found on our website). You may also find the [Boys' Uniform Order Form](#) and [Girls' Uniform Order Form](#) on our website under the Parent tab in the forms section.



We have 2 new wonderful volunteers who have re-organized our Uniform Exchange inventory and they are open for business. Please welcome Renunda Lee and Shirley Williams as our Uniform Exchange co-coordinators. Mrs. Lee can be reached at leers28@hotmail.com and Mrs. Williams may be reached by phone at 215-510-2916. Please note these contacts are slightly changed from what is listed on our Parent Student Handbook.

SAFETY FIRST



Traffic during arrival and dismissal is very heavy during the first few days of school. We ask that parents try and carpool if at all possible. We have a team of teachers and staff who direct and manage traffic to keep our students safe and it is imperative for the parents to follow their directions. Please familiarize yourselves with our procedures and traffic diagrams, which can be found on pages 29-30 in our Parent Student Handbook (released online on August 24th). We thank you in advance for your patience and cooperation to help our arrival and dismissal system run smoothly.

PARENT STUDENT HANDBOOK

Parents will be issued a 2017-2018 [Parent Student Handbook](#) at the Informal Open House on Thursday, August 24th. If parents are unable to attend the Open House, students will bring home the Handbook on the first day of school. Parents may also find the handbook on our website under the School Life tab (posted after August 24th). This handbook is one of the most important pieces of information you will receive. We advise parents to read the book from cover to cover and familiarize themselves with our policies and procedures. It is especially important the first few weeks of school to understand our arrival and dismissal policies as well as our late arrival/ early dismissal, and emergency closing policies.

St. Pius X Regional School

14710 Annapolis Road
Bowie, MD 20715

Phone: 301-262-0203
Fax: 301-805-8875

Website: stpiusbowie.org
Email: office@stpiusbowie.org

2016 Blue Ribbon School



**Building Faith, Values,
Service, and Academic
Excellence since 1962.**

**News Notes submissions
must be emailed to
jmacdonald@stpiusbowie.org by
noon Monday to be
published on Thursday**

Our Regional Parishes

St. Pius X Catholic Church

14720 Annapolis Road
Bowie, MD 20715
301-262-2141

<http://www.spxbowie.org/>

Sacred Heart Parish

16501 Annapolis Road
Bowie, MD 20715
301-262-0704

<http://www.sacredheartbowie.org>

Ascension Catholic Church

12700 Lanham Severn Road
Bowie, MD 20720
301-262-2227

<http://www.ascensionbowie.com>

St. Edward the Confessor

1940 Mitchellville Road
Bowie, MD 20716
301-249-9199

<http://www.stedwardbowie.org>

2017-2018 CALENDAR

In an effort to “Go Green”, parents will have access to the school Google calendar. The SPX Google Calendar is located on our school homepage, and at <https://www.stpiusbowie.org/school-life/calendar/>. On the calendar website, you can add the calendar to your own Google account/calendar, change the view, and print a copy. If it is ever necessary to change the school calendar, you will be notified via News Notes.



FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL PAPERWORK

The following papers will be sent home with students on their first day of school and/or the informal Open House. We have noted if the paperwork will go home with each child or the youngest/only in the family. Please return completed paperwork by Tuesday, September 6th.

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| *2017-2018 Parent Student Handbook (youngest) | *Family Information Card, blue (youngest) |
| *2017-2018 School Calendar magnet (youngest) | *Emergency Information/Health Card, green (each) |
| *2017-2018 Archdiocese Family Survey (each) | *Milk Order Form (each) |
| *2017-2018 Walker’s Pass Application (youngest) | *Room Parent Application (each) |



ALL ABOUT MIDDLE SCHOOL



PARENT MEETING ABOUT CHROME BOOK PROGRAM - AUGUST 22

All parents with 6th, 7th or 8th grade students are required to attend a meeting to discuss the terms and conditions of the use of school issued Chrome Books. Please meet in Nelson Hall at 5:00pm on Tuesday, August 22nd.

MIDDLE SCHOOL PARENT MEETING (MANDATORY) - SEPTEMBER 7

There will be a mandatory meeting of all parents with Middle School students (grades 6-8) on Thursday, September 7th. Please meet in Nelson hall at 7:00pm.

BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT FOR GRADES 5-8 - SEPTEMBER 12

Back to School Night for Parents of Middle School Students in grades 5-8 will be on Tuesday, September 12th, at 7:00pm.

Back to school nights are for parents only and children may not attend.

HIGH SCHOOL ADMISSIONS MEETING - SEPTEMBER 21

Parents of all 7th and 8th grade students are invited to come to St. Pius X Regional School on Thursday, September 21st, for an informational meeting concerning the application process to Catholic High Schools.

This meeting will take place in Nelson Hall at 7:00pm.

WELCOME NEW STAFF

St. Pius X Regional School would like to formally welcome our new staff members, Mrs. Meghan Benson and Mrs. Bridget Snyder. Mrs. Benson is our new school nurse and joins us from Eleanor Roosevelt High School. She may look familiar because she is a member of St. Pius X Parish. We are sure she will take great care of your children should they need to go to the Health Room. If you need to discuss your child's health issues with her, please call or email and set up an appointment. Mrs. Benson's email is mbenson@stpiusbowie.org and her phone number here at school is (301) 262-0203 ext. 12.



We would also like to give a warm welcome to our new computer teacher, Mrs. Bridget Snyder. Mrs. Snyder had been working as a technology teacher at Elizabeth Seton High School. She is very excited to be here as she is an alumna of SPX! Mrs. Snyder has been working throughout the summer to make sure we are ready to implement our new Chrome Books in September. Parents will get a chance to meet her at the Middle School Parent meeting about the Chrome Books on August 22nd.

Students and parents, be sure to say hello and introduce yourselves to our new staff when you are here for the Open House on August 24th.

CYO UPDATES

SPX CYO



CYO would like to give a warm welcome to new and returning SPX CYO families! We're looking forward to another great SPX CYO year in sports!

Visit us on our Facebook Page, [@SPXCyOBOWIE](https://www.facebook.com/SPXCyOBowie), follow us on twitter [@SPX_CYO](https://twitter.com/SPX_CYO) or visit our website at www.stpiusbowiecyo.com to see what's happening with SPX CYO.

As you register your children to participate in any of the sports we offer this year, please consider coaching or assistant coaching. Coaching is not only a wonderful opportunity to be part of your child's youth sports experience but a chance to connect with other SPX families. It's also a fun way to earn Volunteer Service Program hours! We are currently in need of soccer coaches, so if you are interested, please contact Soccer Commissioner Butch Veri at Butch.Veri@verizon.net or Al Sellan at Sellanfamily@gmail.com. Many thanks to our current and future volunteers!

For those new to CYO (Catholic Youth Organization): CYO programs seek to help young men and women appreciate Christ's presence in their opponents, use their physical gifts and play fairly and enthusiastically, both on and off the field. At St. Pius X Regional School, we offer Boy's and Girl's Basketball, Soccer, Cross Country, Track and Field, Baseball, and Softball. Player registration for these sports occurs throughout the school year.

FAMILY DIRECTORY



In an effort to go green, our family directory is now online in your Parent Portal. The directory is searchable by student name and class. For directions on how to remove yourself from the directory, view this video: <http://redikersupport.com/documentation/videos/plusportals/parentplus-customize-directory-listing.htm>.

VOLUNTEER SERVICE HOURS

We will once again track volunteer service hours using a website called TRACK IT FORWARD. All new families will need to create one account per family. Returning families can still use their current account. We would like to streamline the accounts to just one per family, so feel free to edit your first name to include both volunteering family members (ex. Mary and Joseph +last name) and delete your second account. Please remember to log your hours as soon as you complete them. Create an account here: <https://www.trackitforward.com/site/st-pius-x-regional-school?type=register>.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES - SIGN UP NOW

We need your help as volunteers for upcoming events during the 2017-2018 school year. We welcome any volunteer support that you can contribute. Whatever your schedule allows, the time you give as a volunteer benefits our children and makes a difference in the success of our school community.

1. **Chick-fil-A** – Looking for a chairperson to take over this once a month special lunch for our entire school. Chick-fil-A days are usually the first Wednesday of the month, beginning in October. Chick-fil-A days will be cancelled if we do not find a chairperson. Email Mrs. Schrom, jschrom@stpiusbowie.org, if interested.

2. **Zumba Night** – October 16th – Looking for 2 or 3 volunteers to help with this fun event in our school hall. Mrs. Seppi is excited to work with you. Email vmccann@stpiusbowie.org if interested.

3. **Square 1 Art Fundraiser** – Looking for chairperson and volunteers to lead this fundraiser in the fall. Most of the work can be completed from home, except for mailing the artwork and distributing the gifts in the beginning of December. Email Jackie Atkinson, jmaymaster@hotmail.com, if interested.

4. **Gala** – Looking for 1 or 2 chair people and volunteers to run our biggest fundraiser event. Save the date to spend a Night at the Races, a nod to Bowie's history, on April 28th. Email Jackie Atkinson or Janet Schrom, jmaymaster@hotmail.com or jschrom@stpiusbowie.org, if interested.



HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION NEWS

Home and School Association (HSA) of St. Pius X Regional School was founded to help parents and teachers acquire a profound appreciation of the ideals of Catholic Education; to promote a clearer understanding of the mutual educational responsibilities of parents and teachers; to encourage the home and school to a greater degree of cooperation in discharging their joint responsibilities; to engage in cultural, civic, legislative, educational, charitable, social and other activities which further the interests of the Association and its membership.

The membership of the Home and School Association consists of the mothers, fathers, or guardians of currently enrolled students of St. Pius X Regional School and members of the faculty. Officers (President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer) are elected each year by the parents/guardians attending the final HSA meeting of the school year.

The Home and School Association is responsible for the record keeping of the Obligatory Support (VSP or Volunteer Service Program) and Fundraising Programs (FSO or Fundraising Support Obligation). The Association will appoint a person or persons to collect, collate, and account for all VSP hours worked and all FSO monies collected from individual school families. The Chairpersons will report directly to the school Bursar.

Please look in the News Notes each month for news about HSA General meetings, social events, and fund raisers.

Save the dates: Friday, September 8, 5:00pm, Welcome Back BBQ
Monday, September 18, 7:00pm in Nelson Hall, HSA General Meeting
Friday, September 29, 7:00pm in Nelson Hall, Purse Bingo

MIDDLE SCHOOL BACK TO SCHOOL DANCE

Catch up with your friends before school starts at the Knights of Columbus Back to School Dance for Middle Schoolers on August 19th from 7:00 to 10:00pm at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Bowie.



Tickets are \$5.00 in advance and \$7.00 at the door. Ticket price includes 1 soda, and 1 entrée (hot dog, slice of pizza, or burger.) All proceeds go to the Knights of Columbus Charity Fund.

For advanced tickets, please call George Riddle at 490-972-5285.