



PITTSBURGH CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

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Dear Catholic School Families,

It is such a joy to welcome you back to our schools as we officially open the 2022-23 school year. I hope the summer provided time for relaxation, rejuvenation, and lots of special family time! The children often have mixed emotions about the start of school, but I do hope they are anticipating a great beginning.

The summers are very busy for our administrative teams, and this year was no exception. Our school administrators and their teams reviewed safety and security plans for their schools, updated trainings, and provided necessary revisions to school protocols. As we begin the new school year, we ask all the members of our Catholic school community to do their part in keeping our schools safe. If you hear or see something, please let the principal, teachers, or authorities know. If you have questions about school security, please reach out your school administrator.

We have been fortunate to hire many exceptional teachers, principals, and staff members in the past two months. We welcomed over 80 new teachers at our recent New Teacher Orientation Day on August 16th. In addition, we have 7 new elementary principals and 3 new high school principals. Many of these new administrative appointments are individuals who have worked in our diocese and felt called to move to a school leadership position.

Our teachers came together for diocesan wide professional development on August 19 and August 22. This has not happened in a number of years, and it was beautiful to see the faculties of all our schools together as a community of Catholic educators. It is clear that they are excited as I am about the new school year.

Our Health and Safety Plan is available on our diocesan website, <https://diopitt.org/schools>. This information may also be viewed on your school website. Please take a few minutes to review it. I encourage you to visit our Catholic Schools Webpage periodically throughout the year. We have a wonderful new look and a great deal of valuable information about Catholic education in our area.

With great love, faith and hope, we begin another school year. Our mission is clear, and we all called to work together as brothers and sisters in Christ to achieve it. While the next 180 school days are about academics, athletics, the arts, social experiences, and so much more, our reason for existing is to walk with our children and each other on the path to eternity. Our mission remains to learn Jesus, love Jesus, and live Jesus!

God bless you!

Michelle A. Peduto