



THE COUGAR



Greetings from Mrs. Gardiner

Dear St. Jude Families,

The faculty and staff at St. Jude value the strong relationships we have with our families and community. We know when a school community works together, our students benefit greatly. It is my distinct pleasure to introduce and welcome our **2023-2024 St. Jude School Advisory Council** members:

President—Jaclyn Landry
Past President—Allyson Vogt
Vice President—Michael Proctor
Secretary—Nick Robicheaux
Finance Committee Chair—Jude Guerin
Technology Committee Chair—Chad Gary
Mission Advancement Director—Melissa Dean
Athletic Director—Lindsey McCombie
Home and School Co-Presidents—Kate Cook and Lindsey Gueho
Building and Ground Chair—Mike Telich
Faculty Representative—Shawn Bone
Alumni Representative—Mandy Cushing
Council Members—Meagan Blanchard, Eric Hart, Michael Malek, Steve Frantz, Hilary Trahan

In the spirit of moving forward, the School Advisory Council will continue to focus on the St. Jude School Growth Plan for 2019-2024. This plan, in alignment with our mission and vision, continues to provide guidance in prioritizing strategies in the five major areas of academics, fair, marketing and communications, physical plant and technology, and finances. Thank you to all the members for agreeing to serve our school system in this capacity.

Middle School Clubs: The middle school faculty and staff are overjoyed to announce this year's St. Jude middle school clubs! The new clubs include: Coding, Activity Coordinator, Cougars for Christ, Crafting, Drama, Fitness, Geography, Newspaper, Yearbook, Chess-Logic, Gardening, Media, Robotics, School Spirit, Trivia, and Sports Management. The clubs will meet the first and third Wednesday of each month during study hall. During the first several club meetings, the faculty club sponsor and club members will begin to develop the purpose and goals of the club, as well as choose a service project they will complete this year.

St. Jude Athletics: We are excited to announce the start of this fall's athletic season. Our fall sports are football, cross country, swimming, girls' basketball, cheerleading, Cougarettes, and intramural soccer.

I am pleased to announce the **2023-2024 St. Jude Athletic Association Board** members:

Athletic Director—Lindsey McCombie
Assistant Athletic Director—Brad Moses
Board President—Angelle Saia
Past President—Matthew Vaughn
Board Members—Adrienne Vaughn, Kate Cook, Mandy Cushing, Ryan Nizzo, Dustin Collette, Prentiss Wilks, Andrea Buttross, Melissa Guerin, Trey Willoughby, Lauren Andermann, Jason Young, Will Harris, and Adam Davis

Our Athletic Association helps develop, guide, and support the elementary and middle school athletic policies, programs, and facilities.

The **2023-2024 Booster Club** is in its second year! The Booster Club Board members are:

President—Jason Young
Athletic Director—Lindsey McCombie
Assistant Athletic Director—Brad Moses
Board Members—Adrienne Vaughn, Ryan Nesbit, Kyle Bordelon, Jess Schmeackle, Mandy Cushing, Adam Davis, and Eric Hart

The Booster Club focuses on providing stewardship opportunities for families to share their time, talent, and treasure with St. Jude's athletic programs. The Booster Club is hosting its second annual St. Jude Golf Tournament on September 25th. The funds raised will go directly to St. Jude School's athletic programs.

Band and Choir: We are excited to have our Advanced and Beginner Band as well as Choir starting their programs this week.

Visitors in the Cafeteria: Parents are welcome to join their child in the cafeteria for lunch. Please be sure to inform your child's homeroom teacher when you plant to visit.

The faculty, staff, School Advisory Council, Athletic Association, and Booster Club are all very excited about the collaborative work we are doing together in planning our school community's bright future.

One in Christ,
Michelle Gardiner, M.Ed.

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Important Dates

Friday, September 8: Maddie's Footprints Fundraiser— bring \$1 or more to wear Pink or Blue shirts with uniform bottoms and accessories

Thursday, September 14: Book Fair Kickoff—dress up as your favorite storybook character! Kickoff Night event from 4:00-7:30pm

Saturday, September 16: St. Jude Parish Ministry Dinner—after the 4:00pm Vigil Mass in the St. Jude Activity Center. Register [here](#)

Monday, September 18: School Mass for grades **K through 8th only** (mass attire is not required) and Fun Run Kickoff

Wednesday, October 18: Parent/Teacher Conference Day for **PK through 2nd grade only**

Morning Carpool Reminders

Please remember to have your child/children unbuckled and exit from the passenger side of the vehicle. Also, do not exit your vehicle to help your child/children.

Identified Stewardship Giver Status Update

To qualify for the Identified Stewardship Giver (ISG) admission bracket and corresponding lower tuition rate for the upcoming 2024-2025 school year, a registered in-parish St. Jude Church Catholic family must have met the **minimum identifiable amount of \$300.00** given through the Church offertory collection using the envelopes or the portal for online giving. Contributions must be made between January 1, 2023, and December 20, 2023, to count towards the 2024-2025 school year.

Cafeteria Menu —Located on School Website

When the Diocese releases the upcoming month's cafeteria menu on the last day of the month, we will upload the menu to our school's website on the **Home page** and under the **Cafeteria menu** button. We will not send a separate email each month as a way to limit the emails you all receive.

St. Jude School Calendar—Located in FACTS

We have moved our school calendar from the school website to **FACTS**. This allows us to add more details for you to access in a secured location.

Come Lord Jesus Volunteers

St. Jude School needs volunteers to serve as small group leaders for the weekly Come Lord Jesus program with 8th graders. This involves 20 Thursdays for about an hour. The program will begin in October and end in April. Discussion guides and activities are provided. **All volunteers must be child-protected prior to contacting Mrs. Allen.** If interested, please email Mrs. Sheri Allen at sallen@stjudebr.org.

Follow Us on Social Media!

[Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [St. Jude BR Parents page](#)

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School Fundraisers

Don't forget about our school fundraiser this Friday! Students can bring \$1 or more to wear a pink or blue shirt and accessories with uniform bottoms. Accessories may include colored socks, hair bows, face glitter and girls may paint their fingernails.



Friday, September 8
Please bring \$1 or more to wear a pink or blue shirt with uniform bottoms and support Maddie's Footprints!

The mission of Maddie's Footprints is to provide emotional and financial support to families that have experienced miscarriage, stillbirth or infant loss in the Greater Baton Rouge Area

Our goal is to raise \$2500 so that St. Jude students can become Water Station Sponsors at the Maddie's Footprints Race on October 28!

www.maddiesfootprints.org

Book Fair—Volunteers Needed

ST. JUDE SCHOOL
IS FULL OF CHARACTERS!

Dress up like your favorite
storybook character on
September 14!



St. Jude School Book Fair kicks off on **Thursday, September 14th!** Let's celebrate the day by dressing up as your favorite storybook character at school. Our official Kick Off event will take place after school from 4:00-7:30pm. **We are still in need of more volunteers. Please sign up [here](#).**

Home and School

FUN RUN KICKOFF DATE CHANGED: The Fun Run is quickly approaching and is sure to be an exciting time for St. Jude! Please note in your calendars that the **kick off date has been changed** from Friday, September 15 to **Monday, September 18**. All pertinent information will be provided in a packet that will be sent home on the 18th. If there are any additional questions, however, please feel free to reach out to Rachael Lanius at stjudebrfunrun@gmail.com.

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Athletics



CROSS COUNTRY: The XC team competed in the St. Jean Vianney Invitational this past Saturday. The boys finished in second place overall with **Nolan Pizer, Davis Romero, Wade Saia, Alex Williams and Graham “G Money” Prather** scoring. The girls team finished 3rd place with **Kaitlyn Garidel, Julie Murray, Molly Luke, Parker Lewis and Lily Herman** scoring. Kaitlyn Garidel, Nolan Pizer, Davis Romero and Wade Saia finished in the **Top 20 runners** as well. Next race is Episcopal Round Table run at Highland Road Park this weekend and the Brusly Middle Invitational at Brusly High School on September 16th.

BOOSTER CLUB: The 2023 St. Jude Booster Club golf classic is quickly approaching! We only have five flag sponsorships remaining—deadline is TODAY to purchase. There are only nine foursomes remaining until our event is sold out. For more information and to sign up online, please visit: [Booster Club | St Jude](#)



7TH GRADE GIRLS BASKETBALL: The 7th grade girls basketball team has been busy preparing for the upcoming season with practice and fun team bonding activities. Jamboree is tonight! Come support our girls at 6:30pm.



5TH/6TH GRADE FOOTBALL: The team attended an LSU football practice and toured the football facilities on August 30. A big shout-out to Coach Mike Denbrock (Chance’s dad) for organizing the visit!

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Save the Dates



ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL HIGH SCHOOL

OPEN HOUSE

OCTOBER 25, 2023

MORE INFO AT WWW.SMHSBR.ORG



We can't wait to meet you!
JOIN US FOR

2023 Open House

Register at visitsja.org

St. Joseph's Academy
Est. 1868

Tour

Tour campus with Student Ambassadors.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19 | 3:30-7 p.m.
For Girls in Grades 6-8 and Their Parents

See

See performances and demonstrations showcasing the arts, academics, sports medicine and the STEM Lab.

Watch

Watch technicians at work in our student-run Help Desk.

Visit

Visit with teachers and administrators.

Enjoy

Enjoy performances by the SJA cheerleaders, SJA/Catholic High band and the Red Steppers competition dance team.

LEARN ALL ABOUT WHAT MAKES THE ACADEMY *so special!*



Founded in 1868 by the Sisters of St. Joseph. | St. Joseph's Academy has a non-discriminatory admissions policy.
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