



SACRED HEART HIGH SCHOOL

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August 28, 2017

Dear Sacred Heart Families,

I hope everyone is well rested and excited for this new school year!

Every September begins with an over-looked and under-appreciated, but meaningful national holiday. Labor Day marks the end of a relaxing (yet too short) summer. However, this day also marks the beginning of a wonderful new school year. Our nation's history has been and continues to be enriched by the hard working families who seek to build a better nation from which their children will benefit. To all of our hardworking family members in the Sacred Heart community and beyond: I wish you a restful and well-deserved Labor Day!

School is just around the corner and I am sure many of our students are excited to get the year started. Our incoming freshman might be nervous to start their high school experience. Our sophomores have a year under their belt and know the lay of the land. Juniors are getting ready for what is beyond high school: college scouting, and SAT prep. Finally, our seniors are excited that they made it this far and have become the leaders of our school. But before we begin the new school year, I wanted to share with you some important information.

Bus Service

This year, we have a change to transportation opportunities to Sacred Heart. Students always have the option to purchase a metro bus pass, for all public buses; students also have the option of our two bus routes. Earlier in the year, or in your registration packet, we provided a list of bus stops for our students. Unlike years past, we cannot offer door-to-door service. Like most private schools in the area, we are offering strategic locations for pick-up. The Riverdale Bus route & pick times will not change; however, we are finalizing our East Yonkers Bus routes. A separate email will go out later this week confirming pickup times and stops.

All families should have signed up for bus service prior to the end of the school year. If you have any questions, please call Ms. Zarate at 914-965-3114 ext. 110.

Emails

Parents & Guardians: During Orientation, your student(s) will receive important information, as well as forms that must be completed. The most important are Emergency Contact Cards. Please make sure you update your phone number, home address, and email. This is vital for staying in touch with you throughout the school year.

New Students: Whether you are a 9th grader or a transfer student: you will be receiving a school email. Please make sure you check it daily! This email will be accessed through google.com and will end with the domain name @sacredhearths.org.

School Handbook

During Orientation, students will receive an updated copy of the student handbook. There were some slight changes to our Attendance Policy, School Discipline Structure and Financial Expectations for students and their families. Students and Parents/Guardians must read the updated handbook and sign a form indicating that they have read and understand it. This should be returned to homeroom teachers.

Orientation

Please review our school calendar for Orientation Times for each year level. Please note that Orientation for each grade level will begin in Sacred Heart Church (110 Shonnard Place). Student should use the front door of the church and follow faculty/staff instructions upon entrance. Since Orientation is not a full day of school, there is no bus service on Wednesday, September 6 or Thursday, September 7. There will be bus service on Friday, September 8.

Students should be in school uniform on Wednesday and Thursday. On Friday, because we will have our Back to School BBQ, students are allowed to dress comfortably in sneakers, T-shirts, and Jeans. Please see the Dress Down Guidelines below.

- No tank tops, spaghetti straps, cut-off shirts, sleeveless tops, low necklines, midriff, shoulder baring, revealing or open backs are permitted. Clothes should not be see-through, nor should they expose your midriff or underwear.
- No student's shirt, sweater, or bag should contain an inappropriate picture, symbol, or message.
- Pants may not be ripped or contain holes. Pants may not be sagging or baggy.
- Overly short apparel is not permitted. Skirts and shorts must be fingertip length, even if leggings are worn underneath.
- No flip-flops, heels, or open back shoes (this is a tripping hazard).
- Our normal rules apply concerning jewelry, cell phones, hats, and piercings.

School Calendar

The 2017-2018 High School Calendar has now been made public and is available on the home page of the Sacred Heart website or by directing your browser of choice to <http://sacredhearths.org/school-calendar>. Our bell schedules are newly updated: please refer to <http://sacredhearths.org/bell-schedule> for more details.

School Photo's

Seniors: If you missed your opportunity to take a senior photo, there is a makeup date on October 16. All Seniors are required to take a senior photo!

Underclassmen: There was a slight error regarding picture day; I apologize for any confusing emails and/or phone calls from our picture company. Your pictures will not be taken during orientation week; rather each homeroom will have a set time to take pictures on September 15.

Student Schedules

During Orientation, students will receive a paper copy of their class schedule for the school year; however, the schedule might also be made viewable prior to orientation on our portal website. If a student or parent has a question about the schedules, they must see their guidance counselor first. Based on requirements to graduate Sacred Heart High School and to attain a Regent Diploma, the guidance counselor is the first person to determine if there is a conflict or possible scheduling error. If a change must be made, the

Guidance Department will notify the Principal and discuss possible changes. Students should not go the main office with questions or issues about schedules; they must see their guidance counselor first.

Students will not be able to change their schedule after September 29.

Uniforms

Sacred Heart High School contracts with Lu-Del's Uniform Company located on South Broadway in Yonkers. Students are expected to be in uniform from the beginning of the school year until the very end. Please make sure to visit the school website for the detailed explanation of uniform requirements and regulations, <https://sacredhearths.org/uniform-ordering>.

September is all about new beginnings. Any new school year is always filled with adjustments and surprises, but I can give you my word that Sacred Heart will work to make September run as smoothly as possible. What is more, beyond the beginning of a year, it is the end of the school year – graduation, Regents, and celebrations – that make the beginning worth it!

For over 95 years, Sacred Heart High School has provided excellent and affordable Catholic education to young men and women in the New York area. My goal is to make sure the path that we take will keep us all accountable and on the road for another successful 95 years. With your help and understanding, we will. Thank you in advance for being part of the community and history of this outstanding academic institution, but more importantly, thank you for being part of the Sacred Heart Family.

With new school year blessings,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Karen K. Valenti-DeCecco', written in a cursive style.

Mrs. Karen K. Valenti-DeCecco
Principal

“All beginnings are somewhat strange; but we must have patience, and little by little, we shall find things, which at first were obscure, becoming clearer.”

- St. Vincent de Paul