

## St. Vincent de Paul School

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July 30, 2020



What's happening?

**July** The school office will be open on Wednesdays, 9-noon.

**August 1st and 2nd** free live stream event for families. Register to watch for free with your child.

https://www.akidsplayabout.org/? utm\_source=wordfly&utm\_medium=email&utm\_ campaign=MKT21AKidsPlayAnnouncement&utm\_c ontent=version\_A

## Scrip Gift Cards

- Scrip gift cards available in the office on days that we are open.
- This is a great way to support the school and get head start on next year's fundraising.
- With this fundraiser you aren't ask to buy something extra. You are just ask to pay for things a little differently.
- Don't forget, you can buy scrip online, too!

Thanks to Briget Caudill and Jennifer Emil for organizing the Uniform Exchange Sale.



"If God is the center of your life, no words are necessary. Your mere presence will touch hearts." St. Vincent de Paul Dear Families,

We are definitely in uncertain times... worrisome times... prayerful times.... I have rewritten this note three times.

I know that some of you may be wondering why we would consider opening in-person when so many of the public schools are choosing to start the year with remote learning. All administrators know the value of children being in school and yet have struggled with plans for a fall opening following the recommended safety guidelines. The Superintendent of Catholic Schools would like to see our schools open safely following the guidelines. We follow the Governor's orders and/or the local Health Department's recommendations. I am surprised that neither of these have recommended we start the year remotely, but I anticipate this will happen as COVID cases continue to rise.

I am reviewing the parent survey on opening school that you responded to last week and a teacher survey. We cannot do both full in-person and full remote learning at the same time. I feel that asking teachers to do even a "limited" form of remote learning if we are to open in-person will be an undue burden on the teachers. Right now, teachers are planning for a robust remote learning experience as they also plan to open in-person.

The School Commission is having a special meeting next week. They will review the surveys, look at possibly adjusting the service time and fundraising commitments for year, and look at the impact this situation is having on our budget. We will discuss whether we should continue with our plan to open in-person or move to full remote learning. The health and safety of everyone is the top priority.

Whatever we decide about opening school, I know that some people will be disappointed. I feel for the parents who need to work, for the parent working from home and trying to help their child learn, and for the teachers trying to instruct a Zoom class with little ones at home. I understand the concern for families who have members who fall in the high risk category for COVID. We are all in this together. There's no easy answer here.

Whatever we decide, we need to rally around and support one another and our community. This is what we do; this is who we are. We will need to continue to support our school so we can keep it going and keep our teachers.

We are a people of faith, and faith will guide us through this. I know God is listening and speaking to me at least twenty times each day.

Fr. Tom says that when you say "peace be with you," you are saying, "my life is better because you are in it."

To all of you I say, Peace be with you,

Wanda

P.S. St. Vincent de Paul, pray for us.

A parish school forming children to be faith-filled Catholics, to have a joy for learning, and to be responsible members of our community.