

SUMMER UPDATE

UPCOMING EVENTS:

August 16th: Back to School Night

August 18th: First day of School. Noon dismissal. NO PM PREK

August 19th: PM PreK first day

August 20th: Feast of St. Bernard

QUICK LINKS:

[School Calendar 2022-2023](#) [Google Calendar for 2022-2023](#) [Classroom Supplies Lists](#)

UPDATES AND REMINDERS

Classroom Supplies: Click on the link above (far right) for classroom supplies lists.

Teaching Updates: I have two very important announcements about our staffing for next year.

- Mr. Becker has decided to leave teaching. We are actively searching for a music teacher, but, because of Mr. Becker's late resignation, we may have to start the year off without one. If you or someone you know would be willing to be a long-term sub, please contact me at 402-553-4993. Students will have art this year, so they will still have a creative special.
- The teacher shortage has affected us just like it has in every other school. We have been unsuccessful in hiring a middle school math and science teacher. Again, we are still actively looking for one, but if we don't find one or a long-term sub, here is our emergency plan. Currently, 6th and 7th grades have only 9-10 students. We would have 6th and 7th grade be a combined class, and Mr. Collier and Mrs. Sibbernson would teach science and math. Again, this is the worst-case scenario. Please spread the word about the open positions here at school. If you have questions, please reach out to me.

New Teachers: While we are still looking for a few new teachers, we have filled all of our other positions, and I am excited to introduce them to you!

- Mr. Timothy Collier: Middle School ELA. He has previously taught at the college level.
- Ms. Toni Buckler: 5th Grade. Previously taught at St. Barabas and Regina Caeli classical academies.
- Mrs. Katy Dahl: 4th Grade. Experienced teacher from Florida and has recently moved to Omaha with her family.
- Mrs. Lisa Maas: 3rd Grade. First-year teacher with a passion for education!
- Mrs. Maria Simonson: Pre-K. Has been a lead teacher in 3-4-year-old childcare classrooms for the past 11 years.
- Ms. Kate Fox: PE/Health. A first-year teacher with creative and new ideas for PE!

Back to School Night: This year, we will be changing Back to School Night only slightly.

- 4:30-5:00 pm: Mass for all teachers, parents, and students
- 5:15 pm: Doors open to the school. **You will not be allowed in until 5:15.** Teachers need a few minutes between Mass and doors open to prepare for you.
- 5:30 pm: PK-2nd grade parent meeting in the cafeteria with Ms. Finley. This information is for ALL families and not just new families. It is important that all families attend.
- 6:00 pm: 3rd-5th grade parent meeting in the cafeteria with Ms. Finley. This information is for ALL families and not just new families. It is important that all families attend.
- 6:30 pm: 6th-8th grade parent meeting in the cafeteria with Ms. Finley. This information is for ALL families and not just new families. It is important that all families attend.
- All clubs/committees and used uniforms will be in the gym.
- Bring your students' school supplies to drop off in their room.

- Required handouts will be in your child's classroom. Please stop into their classroom, complete the required paperwork, and head to the gym to pay classroom fees (bring a check, cash, or card).
- We will have a TACO TRUCK outside for the night! Thank you to the school board and Brenda Davidson for getting this put together. Bring cash or card for the taco truck.

Construction and Cross Walk:

- The crosswalk has been moved to be right in front of the crosswalk sign where there is a walkway with no curb. There is paint still at the old crosswalk, but we will be using this new crosswalk. See the pictures below.
- There is construction on 65th and Pratt that is supposed to be done by August 9th. However, in the past week, I haven't seen any crew out there. If the construction isn't done by the first day of school, we will have to adjust our pick-up and drop-off procedures.



Free Lunches: For the last two years, all students have had free lunches, subsidized by the federal and state government because of Covid. The government is no longer having that rule in place, so student lunches will be charged again. Student lunch costs:

- \$3.00 for lunch
- just milk without lunch is \$0.55
- extras 6th-8th grade \$0.75 (only if there is money in the account)
- PreK milk \$0.20

You can add money to a student's lunch balance on Back to School Night. Make checks payable to St. Bernard and add in the memo line "Lunch Balance-(Student's Name)." You can also pay with cash. When your lunch balance is under \$5 you will get notifications via email and/or printed balance. **Families can still qualify for free and reduced lunches.** If you are close to or at the following income levels, I highly recommend filling out

the forms even if you don't plan on having your child get school lunches. Not only does this benefit you, but those forms determine the amount of funding we receive as a school. Every funding source or grant I apply for is typically needs-based and the free and reduced lunch rate is always the qualifier. [Find the application here \(Attachment C\)](#) or you will also receive them on Back to School Night. Below is the income chart for receiving free/reduced lunch. **Please note that "household size" indicates every person living in your home;** this includes all adults and all minors regardless if those adults or minors receive an income.

Household Size	Free Meals					Reduced Price Meals				
	Annual	Monthly	Twice per Month	Every Two Weeks	Weekly	Annual	Monthly	Twice per Month	Every Two Weeks	Weekly
1	17,667	1,473	737	680	340	25,142	2,096	1,048	967	484
2	23,803	1,984	992	916	458	33,874	2,823	1,412	1,303	652
3	29,939	2,495	1,248	1,152	576	42,606	3,551	1,776	1,639	820
4	36,075	3,007	1,504	1,388	694	51,338	4,279	2,140	1,975	988
5	42,211	3,518	1,759	1,624	812	60,070	5,006	2,503	2,311	1,156
6	48,347	4,029	2,015	1,860	930	68,802	5,734	2,867	2,647	1,324
7	54,483	4,541	2,271	2,096	1,048	77,534	6,462	3,231	2,983	1,492
8	60,619	5,052	2,526	2,332	1,166	86,266	7,189	3,595	3,318	1,659
For each additional family member add:	6,136	512	256	236	118	8,732	728	364	336	168

New School Board Member: Although there were quite a few nominations for the new school board, we only had one person accept the nomination, and after looking at the person's credentials, they are more than qualified to be on the school board. Congratulations to Courtney Brewer as a new school board member! Please take a moment to read about how Courtney will make a highly qualified member of our school board.

My name is Courtney Brewer. I have 3 children that attend St. Bernard's (8th, 1st, and kindergarten). My fiancé Kyle and I live in Omaha. I am a supervisor at The Department of Health and Human Services in ongoing child welfare. I have been in child welfare for 15 years. I graduated from The University of Nebraska Lincoln with a sociology major in 2007. I graduated in 2009 from Bellevue University with a master's in public administration. I am a Phi Mu sorority alum and a lifelong Girl Scout member. I am a member of Project Harmony 1184 team that specializes in working with missing youth In the Omaha area. I currently am the secretary for the Home and school board at St. Bernard's. I am also a co-leader for the 6-8th grade Girl Scouts at St. Bernard's. Our children are fourth-generation St Bernards students. I believe my extensive experience in child welfare working in various school settings as a professional and the child's home setting would bring a unique approach to the school board. I have extensive training in leadership, diversity, safety, and iep/mdts in school settings. I enjoy volunteering and attending various school events. I would love to serve the school as a school board member.

- Current Board Members:**
- President: Joe Wiegand
 - Vice President: Cathy Bell
 - Secretary: Stephanie Jackson
 - Teacher rep: Suzanne Seyler
 - Member: Erin Brungardt
 - Member: Amy Bauman
 - Member: Melissa Gonazalez
 - Member: Brenda Davidson
 - Member: Courtney Brewer
 - Principal: Emily Finley
 - Pastor: Fr. Dan Wittrock



**Please join us as we celebrate the
Feast of St. Bernard
Saturday,
August 20th, 2022**

All are invited

5pm Mass celebration at St. Bernard Church

Immediately following Mass,
join us across the street in the Gym
for food, drinks, and fellowship.

We will be serving Burgers, Brats,
Hot Dogs, and Delicious Sides.
Beer, Wine and Pop will be available.

**Free Will Donation
Accepted.**

