



Address 8012 Oak St., New Orleans, LA 70118-2708
Phone (504) 861-3743 **Fax** (504) 861-3973
Website www.standrewsepiscopalschool.org
Email office@www.standrewsepiscopalschool.org

August 4, 2011

Dear St. Andrew's Episcopal School Parents,

Greetings from St. Andrew's, and welcome back! It gives me great pleasure to welcome all of you and your children to the 2011-2012 school year at St. Andrew's. The year promises to be an exciting and productive one together.

It has been both exciting and productive here at St. Andrew's since we parted ways for the summer on May 27. The most significant change on campus, of course, has been the transformation of our playground, thanks to the installation of 10,000 square feet of vibrant green synthetic field turf, 20,000 lbs. of soft rubber cushion infill, and 54,000 lbs. of soft brown rubber mulch.

I want to offer my sincere thanks to the nearly-forty St. Andrew's volunteers, led by Dad's Club President John Barousse and staff from Reginelli's Pizza, whose sweat equity on July 30 and 31 enabled the School to complete this wonderful project on time and under budget.

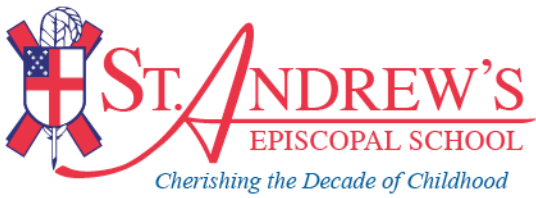
If you have not yet visited St. Andrew's to see the playground for yourself, I urge you to do so. I am truly excited to watch our children run, play, and enjoy the new space in the months and years to come.

It gives me great pleasure to announce that this magnificent new play space, the L-shaped St. Andrew's "Field of Dreams", will hereafter be known as **Cardinal Field**. This wonderful name comes directly from lead donors Emily and Marshall Carver, who rightfully want the field to reflect the true community spirit of St. Andrew's. Please make plans to attend the Ice Cream Social on August 21, our first opportunity to allow children, parents, and friends to enjoy Cardinal Field as one community.

I am also pleased to report that in addition to the transformation of our outdoor play space, thanks to the generosity of the School's Parents' Club and the Harang Trust, St. Andrew's has enhanced the teaching and learning environment in Kimball, Parish, and Rueff Halls.

When you visit campus you will notice an expanded and bright new teaching space for 8th Grade/History along with a new Development Office in Kimball Hall; improvements in 6th Grade/English (no more safes, new carpet tile, new window) and 3rd Grade (a new SmartBoard and Reading Room) in Parish Hall; and new SmartBoards in 1st Grade and the Computer Lab in Rueff Hall.

Now on to a few housekeeping items, as well as a list of key upcoming events.



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Health Forms

Students may not enroll on August 17 unless all health forms and applicable immunization records have been submitted to the School Office. If you have not already submitted your child's forms, please do so prior to August 17. An e-mail message has been sent to all parents who have not yet completed these essential forms.

School Supplies and Dress Code

If you have not already, please be sure to review your child's class-specific Supply List and plan to have all items in hand by August 17. The Supply Lists may be found on the homepage of our website, www.standrewsepiscopalschool.org.

Drop-Off and Pick-Up

Drop-off and pick-up for Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten is at the Short Street gate near Zimpel Street. The car pool line forms along the School side of Short Street. Please do not leave your vehicle unattended at the carpool line in the morning, at noon, or at the end of the day. We encourage families to walk their children to the Short Street gate by parking in the neighborhood and escorting your child to the School gate. As in past years, we will have a police officer on duty in the afternoons to assist with pick-up.

Drop-off and pick-up for Grades 1 through 8 is on Zimpel Street at the entrance to Parish Hall. This is also a carpool line, so please do not park along Zimpel Street in the mornings or afternoons. Please do not drive northbound on Short Street or turn left onto Short Street from Zimpel Street, as this causes congestion for the PK and K families. Please remember that Aftercare and Afterschool Programs pick-up is now through Parish Hall on Zimpel Street.

The school day begins promptly at 7:45 a.m. with Homeroom/Advisory for Middle School students (Grades 5-8) and at 8:00 a.m. for students in Grades PK- 4. We begin each day with Morning Exercises in the Church at 8:00 a.m. for all students and faculty. Parents are encouraged to attend Morning Exercises as often as possible. All students should be on campus at least a few minutes prior to the start of their school day. Faculty are present at both the Zimpel Street and Short Street entrances beginning at 7:30 a.m. each morning.

If your child arrives past 8:00 a.m., please escort him or her directly to the School Office at 1116 Short Street to receive his or her tardy slip.

Upcoming Events

Wed.	Aug. 17	Classes 8:00 A.M. - 12:00 Noon. (Noon dismissal for all students; no lunch or After School Care; Group 1 of PK and K classes attends)
Thur.	Aug. 18	Regular School Schedule for Grades 1-8 (After School Care Begins for Grades 1-8; Group 2 of PK and K classes attends half day)
Fri.	Aug. 19	Parents' Coffee 7:45 A.M., Parent Orientation 8:15 A.M. (Pick up your copy of the <i>DIRECTORY</i>)
Sun.	Aug. 21	2:00 P.M. Ice Cream Social (Enjoy Cardinal Field!)
Mon.	Aug. 22	After School Care Begins for all grades
Tue.	Aug. 23	Extended Day Begins for PK
Fri.	Sept. 2	Faculty Professional Day (No classes for students)
Mon.	Sept. 5	Labor Day (No classes for students)
Wed.	Sept. 14	7:00 P.M. Newcomers' Party
Thur.	Sept. 22	Noon Dismissal (No After School Care) 6:15 P.M. Parents' Night
Sun.	Oct. 16	Episcopal School Sunday (Students Required to Attend)

Faculty and Staff

In May and in July, I introduced you to the new faculty and staff members who will join us for the 2011-2012 school year. I want to reiterate how fortunate we are to have such a fine cadre of educators choose to be part of our community. Please join me in welcoming the following new faculty and staff.

Meg Blevins is the School's new Pre-Kindergarten Associate Teacher. Mrs. Blevins comes to St. Andrew's with several years of teaching experience at the high school level in Virginia and Kentucky as well as tutoring and substitute teaching experience for students in Kindergarten through 12th Grade. Mrs. Blevins has a B.A. in Education from the University of Kentucky and is working toward a Master's Degree in Counseling from Loyola University. She has most recently been a regular Lower School substitute teacher at McGehee School. In addition to welcoming Mrs. Blevins to St. Andrew's, please join me in welcoming her daughter, Anne Porter, who will join the 1st Grade class at St. Andrew's.

Staying in the KinderCottage, **Tommy Haney** will serve as the School's new Kindergarten Associate Teacher. A native of Texas, Mr. Haney comes to St. Andrew's following a successful Fellowship year of teaching Kindergarten at the Greenhill School in Dallas. Mr. Haney holds a B.A. in History, with a minor in Religious Studies, from Austin

College, where he was a four-year member of the soccer team and its captain during his senior year. While focusing his work in Kindergarten, Mr. Haney will also support our growing soccer program at St. Andrew's.

Stephen Breen is the School's new Math Department Chair and Teacher and 7th Grade Advisor. Mr. Breen has taught Middle School math locally at Esperanza Charter School and at the East Side Middle School in New York just after Katrina. He has also served as a Music Teacher and Camp Counselor at the Metairie Academy for Advanced Studies. Mr. Breen is a *magna cum laude* graduate of the University of New Orleans, where he received a Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education.

Beth Nazar is the School's new Associate Spanish Teacher (for Grades 7 and 8). Mrs. Nazar comes to St. Andrew's following an accomplished career of Spanish instruction and tutoring at the Middle School, High School, and adult levels. A graduate of Newman High School, Tufts University (B.A., Major in International Relations and Minor in Latin American Studies), and the University of New Orleans (M.A., Romance Languages: Spanish Linguistics and Culture), Mrs. Nazar has been a freelance Spanish tutor and translator here in New Orleans, has served as the Coordinator of the Intensive English Language Program at UNO, and was the Assistant Dean at Lincoln University College in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Kristin Rich is the School's new Associate Fourth Grade Teacher. Mrs. Rich has taught Pre-Kindergarten, First, and Fourth Grades at Trinity Episcopal School here in New Orleans. She holds a B.A. in Elementary Education from Our Lady of Holy Cross College, and she has served as an Aquatics instructor at Elmwood Fitness Center for five years. She even helped to launch a Middle School Swimming Program at Trinity this past year, something we hope to replicate here at St. Andrew's this year.

Patty Strikmiller, our new Associate PE Teacher, comes to St. Andrew's after conducting over twenty years of Health Promotion Research for Elementary and Middle Schools at LSU and Tulane University. She has co-authored fourteen publications in peer-reviewed journals and has conducted numerous local and national training workshops for PE Teachers. In addition to her significant research and training experience, Mrs. Strikmiller has previously served as an Elementary PE Teacher and Coach at Family Christian Academy in Baton Rouge and at the Academy of the Sacred Heart here in New Orleans. She holds a B.S. in Physical Education from UNO and an M.S. in Physical Education from LSU.

In July, I reported that Greg DeRosa would be serving as our Assistant Aftercare Teacher and Assistant 5th Grade Teacher. Unfortunately, Mr. DeRosa has chosen to pursue full-time employment elsewhere, so we are in the process of hiring an alternate instructor.



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I am pleased to report that Development Coordinator **Natalie Treadway** is now the proud mother of Harper Treadway. Since mid July, while Mrs. Treadway has been spending time with Harper, St. Andrew's parent and volunteer **Michelle Wuttke** has been ably serving as our Interim Development Coordinator. We thank Mrs. Wuttke for her wonderful service to St. Andrew's and look forward to welcoming Mrs. Treadway back to School later this fall.

In addition to the new positions of Associate PE and Associate Spanish Teacher, you will recall that each of the six Associate Teachers in Grades PK-4 is now full-time, a wonderful development for our students, parents, and faculty and a direct result of the significant enrollment growth at St. Andrew's of late. We also now have dedicated Department Chairs and instructional specialists in the core subjects of Math, English, and History for Grades 6-8 and for Science in Grades 5-8.

Lunch

St. Andrew's enters its third year of contracting with Lakeview Deli and Catering to provide meal service to students and faculty. For \$5 per meal, you may register your child for a daily hot and cold lunch selection, including a salad and fruit bar and milk or water. Please see the attached flier for more information, including instructions on how to register your child by the August 12 deadline.

It gives me great pleasure and pride to note that the 2011-2012 school year will constitute the largest enrollment in St. Andrew's history. What a remarkable period it has been for this institution and this community since Katrina struck in 2005. We open this school year poised for continued growth and excellence, and I am truly eager to personally greet each of our students as they enter our campus in the weeks ahead. At St. Andrew's, we are committed to Cherishing the Decade of Childhood and preparing our graduates for high school, college, and life beyond.

Let us begin.

Yours,

Mason Lecky
Head of School