

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We can hardly wait to have students back in the building on Monday!

Thank you to the parents who attended our Back to School Night. I will be hosting one make up session on Friday, September 5 at 8:30am in the library. If you were unable to attend, please mark your calendars. While we cover a lot of the important information in the Back to School Night program, I encourage you to review our family handbook linked [here](#).

Please click [here](#) to read the back to school letter from Ms. Donna Bishop, Superintendent of Catholic Schools.

Please click [here](#) to view the August lunch menu. If you are interested in volunteering at lunch, please complete the form linked [here](#).

Car Line Reminders

Drop Off

- *In the morning, drop off begins at **7:55am**. Please do not drop your children off before this time as there is no supervision.*
- *If your child/children do not need assistance getting out of the car, please stay in the right lane of traffic and pull to the furthest orange/red cone labeled 1 - 5. Students should exit the vehicle on the curb-side. If you are dropping off middle school students, please still pull to the next available spot. They can walk to their waiting designated area. Do not stop and drop them off by where their classmates are waiting.*
- *If you need to assist your children in getting out of their car seats, you may use the left lane to pull up to the green cone area in front of the crosswalk. If you plan to wait with your child in line until 8:05am, please park in a parking spot and do not leave your car unattended by the green cones.*

Pick Up

- *School ends at 3:15pm. If you are the first car in the pickup line, please wait on the west side of the drive until a faculty or staff member on duty waves you forward.*
- *Please display a car sign with your student(s) last name(s) during afternoon pickup to expedite the car line. **We did not make car signs this year, but I ask that you please have your child/children make a sign with your last name written in a large font.***
- *If you have business in the school at dismissal, please park in the upper parking lot and walk to the building.*

- If you have children staying after school for any reason and you need to wait, please park in the upper parking lot and do not enter the car line.
- If your child/children have car seats or need assistance buckling, it is helpful if you pull forward to the green cone area before/after they get in the car.

Important Dates

Saturday, August 23: St. Augustin Catholic Church Feast Day Celebration

Join us as we celebrate our patron saint's feast day!

*The celebration begins with Mass at 5:00pm. Then, enjoy a great picnic dinner following Mass. We'll be serving barbecued pulled pork and beef hot dogs, along with side dishes, dessert, and beverages. Stay for the fun and fellowship! Our celebration activities will include: Giant Inflatables, Dunk Tank, and Great Fellowship. *Kids are welcome to bring their swimsuits and take turns in the dunk tank if they can safely swim.**

AGAIN THIS YEAR - Tickets will not be required to attend St. Augustin Feast Day! Costs are being covered through free will offerings and the generosity of our many sponsors. If your business or family would like to sponsor Feast Day, please drop a donation off at the Parish Office or in the tithing basket along with your name, marked for Feast Day, and return before Tuesday, August 19, to ensure inclusion in our event program. Or use the ONLINE GIVING portal, general donation, notating Feast Day.

Please consider volunteering to set up, clean up, or bring desserts/fruit by signing up at: bit.ly/457axBc

Saturday, August 23: St. Michael's Day of Faith and Fun

St. Michael's, a Diocesan-wide boys group for grades 3-8 with High School Leaders (under adult supervision) is having a Day of Faith & Fun on Saturday, August 23.

Please RSVP for the food, paintball, and transportation numbers. Paintball cost is approximately \$50. RSVP by Wednesday, August 20 to Jeff Pierick at (515) 778-6087.

All boys are invited to any or all activities:

7:15am: Mass, Confession, and Rosary at St. Francis

Breakfast is provided in the church parking lot

(transportation on the St. Augustin Church bus to Dowling Catholic, St. Augustin's, paintball at St. Charles, and back to St. Augustin's)

9:30am: Dowling Catholic Eucharistic Procession at the school (meet inside the northwest entrance of the school by the chapel)
10:30am: For Service Hours (regular or Confirmation), help St. Augustin set up tables and chairs for its Feast Day that night
11:30am: Lunch provided in the St. Augustin parking lot
12:00pm - 4:00pm Take the St. Augustin Church bus to paintball in St. Charles and return to St. Augustin Church parking lot
5:00pm: Vigil Mass at St. Augustin
6:00pm: Feast Day Dinner at St. Augustin
8:30pm: Again, for Service Hours, help tear down the tables and chairs

To wear that day (except during paintball), we hope each attendee can wear a St. Michael's blue T-shirt. For any boy needing one, please forward his size with your RSVP — youth or adult sizes. The T-shirts are \$12, but St. Michael's will pay for any boy who can't afford one. Shirt orders needed by Monday, August 18.

Sunday, August 24: Blessing of the Backpacks

Following 10am Mass at St. Augustin, meet Fr. Pisut in the Parish Hall with your child/children's empty backpack for a blessing and treats. Please click [here](#) for the flyer.

Monday, August 25: First Day of School and TK/K Early Dismissal

The first day of school for students in transitional kindergarten through eighth grade is Monday, August 25. Students may be dropped off in the front of the school at 7:55am; there will not be supervision outside before this time. Students will wait outside with their classes until the first bell rings at 8:05am. The school day begins promptly at 8:15am. The school day ends at 3:15pm.

A reminder that all attendance emails should be directed to Mrs. Karen Engel in the main office (kengel@staugustinschool.org).

Our transitional kindergarten and kindergarten students will be dismissed at 11:15am (before lunch) on Monday, August 25.

Monday, August 25: Boo Hoo/Woo Hoo Breakfast

Following morning drop off, St. Augustin parents and guardians and younger siblings are invited to join us for the annual Boo Hoo (or Woo Hoo!) Breakfast. More information to come; please mark your calendars now!

Tuesday, August 26: Middle School House Sorting and TK/K Early Dismissal

Our new middle school students will be sorted into houses on August 26. Current/returning students should wear their house shirts with uniform shorts/skirts/pants.

Our transitional kindergarten and kindergarten students will be dismissed at 12pm (after lunch) on Tuesday, August 26.

Beginning on Wednesday, August 27, our transitional kindergarten and kindergarten students will have full days of school. On this day, we kindly ask that you encourage/allow your child/children to enter the building with their classes.

Wednesday, August 27: PreK First Day of School

Our pre-kindergarten students will begin on Wednesday, August 27. All students will be dismissed at 11:15am.

Thursday, August 28: PreK Early Dismissal

Our pre-kindergarten students will be dismissed at 12pm (for those who are in full day PreK) on Thursday, August 28.

Students who are in AM PreK only will still be dismissed at 11:15am.

Beginning on Friday, August 29, our pre-kindergarten students enrolled in our all-day program will have full days of school. On this day, we kindly ask that you encourage/allow your child/children to enter the building with their classes.

Thursday, August 28: Mary's Meals Benefit Concert at Jasper Winery

Enjoy a fun evening (6pm - 9pm) with Nashville musicians Phoenix Mendoza, Josh Leo, and Kitty Steadman, lead singer of Drop Dead Dangerous. The event will be MCed by Des Moines native and comedian Willie Farrell.

This benefit is raising money for [Mary's Meals](#). Any monetary donation will help the world's most vulnerable children receive an education and provide them with enough to eat. Bring a friend, have fun and make a difference!

Free will donation for burgers, chicken, meatballs, chips, desserts, drinks. Wine and beer will be available to purchase.

Bring blankets and lawn chairs for seating and get ready to jam!

Friday, August 29: Blue and Gold Day

Friday, August 29 will be our first Blue and Gold Day of the school year. For a minimum \$1 donation, students may wear a St. Augustin spirit shirt and blue jeans or jean shorts.

Ms. Carver, Mrs. Mathiasen, and our first grader will support the Patti family for our August/September service projects - including the collections for both month's Blue and Gold Days. Mrs. Patti's husband, John, was diagnosed with cancer in 2022. Unfortunately, on August 12, they learned that it has returned. They are in the process of determining next steps in the treatment process. Please be generous with your donations if you are able and keep the Patti family in your prayers.

Saturday, September 13: Bishop's Celebration of Catholic Schools

Please consider joining us for the Bishop's Celebration of Catholic Schools on Saturday, September 13. [Please click here for more information.](#)

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Support Dowling Catholic Athletics – Join the Dowling Club!

Since 1941, the Dowling Club has supported our student-athletes through funding, equipment, and facility improvements. Membership includes sports passes to all home events (excluding tournaments), a 15% Campus Store discount, and a Dowling Club window cling. With ticket prices increasing this year, membership is a great way to save while supporting Des Moines' only Catholic high school! Learn more at: www.dowlingcatholic.org/athletics

[DCHS Riptide: New Swimmer Evaluations](#)

[DCHS Mini Maroon Soccer](#)

Please do not hesitate to contact me with questions. :)

Thank you!

Mrs. Spike