

Happy Christmastime! I hope you each had a wonderful Christmas and are preparing for an awesome New Year.

Today is primarily a reminder email, reinforcing some policies and procedures for when we return next week.

First, I wanted to commend all our students and families who have made the decision to get vaccinated. I also want to take this opportunity to encourage families to explore COVID vaccination for their children. While our middle school rates are OK at best (around 50%), our rates in the elementary school are low (less than 1/3). If we want to move forward through this pandemic, vaccination is a key tool. In addition to protecting students and reducing symptoms, it also removes students from close contact and test-to-stay status.

I also want to encourage everyone to continue to be vigilant with mask wearing and other safety procedures. We will be reinforcing mask wearing when students return next week. Students will get a warning to wear their mask properly (above the nose) and then parents will be contacted. And a reminder that if your child is not feeling well, please keep them home and obtain testing.

The new year is also a good time to review and reinforce some policies at SJS. Here are a few

#### Dress Code

Starting in January, we are again going to reinforce the dress code at St. John School. Students will get one warning and then we will contact parents. Please see the attached dress code document. In particular,

-“Stud earrings, a watch, a neat medal and/or a cross are the only pieces of jewelry allowed. Students are not allowed to wear any makeup or fingernail polish. Only natural hair colors are acceptable and hair should not interfere with vision or distract others.”

-“Girls Option - skort with gray, navy blue, or maroon socks/tights (solid color, no design)”

-“White, black, or gray sneakers (no light-up sneakers, no sneakers with wheels, no sparkles, no

bright/other colors), white or black shoelaces, no boots, no heels”

-“dark belts (G2-G8)”

-Only SJS sweaters, sweatshirts, or hoodies are allowed in school.

#### Outdoors

-We will continue to go outside for recess as much as possible so please send your child with appropriate outdoor gear – coat, hat, gloves, etc.

#### Pick Up and Drop Off

-If you are parking and dropping your child in the morning, you must walk them to the Main Entrance and remain with them until the doors open

-For middle school pickup, you must park your car and walk to the grass area to pick up your child

Have a wonderful New Year's and enjoy the rest of your break.

#### **SJS Calendar**

Monday, January 3 – Return to School

#### **Thank you**

#### **Second Notices**

##### *January/February Lunch*

[Click here](#) for the January/February lunch order form is attached. Please email to [sjsslunch@sjscanton.org](mailto:sjsslunch@sjscanton.org) before Thursday, January 6 at noon.

##### *Health Office Update*

[Click here](#) for the SJS Health Office Update.

##### *Preschool Enrollment*

Preschool enrollment is open for the 2022-2023 school year. [Click here](#) to apply. Email [chris.flieger@sjscanton.org](mailto:chris.flieger@sjscanton.org) for a tour.

##### *Helpful Links*

*Ebackpack* - <https://www.sjscanton.org/e-backpack>

*Service Hours Tracker* - <https://tinyurl.com/SJSService21-22>

*2021-2022 School Calendar* - [Click here](#)

Chris