

August 24, 2025



St. Joseph Parish School Lancer Times

Weekly online school communication from the Leadership Team

Administration email: principal@stjosephgraffton.org

Important Dates to Remember

- Summer Park Playdates - Fri. 8/29
- Back to School Picnic, 5:00 - 7:00pm - Tues. 8/26
- Early Childhood Roundup, 8:00 - 1:00pm - Wed. 8/27
- First Day of School - Tues. 9/2
- Back to School Info Night, 6:00 - 7:30pm - Tues. 9/9
- Picture Day, 9:00 - 1:00pm - Fri. 9/12
- 2nd Grade Reconciliation Meeting, 9:15am - Sun. 9/14



~ A Note from the Leadership Team ~

Dear SJPS Families:

In Father Tim's most recent update, he mentioned we were in the process of identifying an additional resource to support our Interim Leadership Team during the 2025-2026 school year. We are excited to have this final member of our team in place before we welcome you and your children back to school in a couple of weeks.

We are pleased to announce that Kelly Swietlik has agreed to join our Interim Leadership Team as a consultant on a part-time/flexible basis. Prior to her retirement in 2020, Mrs. Swietlik spent her entire career in Catholic education. At the time of her retirement, she was the principal at St. Francis Borgia Catholic School in Cedarburg. Since then, she has continued to provide her experience, wisdom, and insight in various interim and consulting capacities.

Our Interim Leadership Team is looking forward to benefiting from Mrs. Swietlik's years of experience in Catholic education and her support this school year. We are looking forward to Mrs. Swietlik being someone that both parents and staff can consult with. She will assist us in Archdiocesan reporting and compliance requirements, application of the Archdiocesan disciplinary protocols and procedures, as well as, day-to-day office support. We are grateful for and blessed by her continued commitment to Catholic education and for joining our team.

Please help us welcome Mrs. Swietlik to the St. Joseph Parish School family. As you see her around the school or at an event, introduce yourself and thank her for her willingness to support our school community!

Blessings,

Carren Gratz
Chris Jackson
Julie Lemke

IMPORTANT - Early Childhood Roundup!

Calling all K3, K4 & K5 families! Please use the link below to sign up for a Roundup Meeting, if you have not already done so, with your student's homeroom teacher on Wednesday, Aug. 27th from 8:00 - 1:00pm. This time will be used to introduce your early childhood student to their teacher and classroom and give both parent and teacher some time to discuss any questions or concerns.

Link here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0549ABA823A2FF2-57890435-early>

SJPS Extended Care: If you are in need of childcare for your SJPS student, we are pleased to offer both morning (6:30 - 8:00am) and evening (3:15 - 6:00pm) childcare through our Extended Care Program. Please use the link provided to sign up your student(s).

September Extended Care Sign Up

Please Join Us in Welcoming...

- Abby Jones - new school Counselor
- Peggy Beaver - new K4 Aide in Mrs. Vaculik's room



Hello, my name is Abby Jones, and I am so excited to be joining the St. Joseph Parish School community as your new school counselor!

I grew up in a small town just north of the Twin Cities in Minnesota, and after high school I attended UW-Madison, where I met my husband. Craving warmer weather,

I pursued my Master's degree in Counselor Education at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. I spent 12 wonderful years working in a diverse school setting in Las Vegas, supporting students from all walks of life as they navigated both their academic and emotional journeys.

As our family began to grow, my husband and I felt called to return to Wisconsin to raise our four children in a smaller, faith-filled community. We now have two daughters, ages 13 and 12, and two sons, ages 10 and 9, who keep us busy with soccer, basketball, football, piano, and theater. When I'm not cheering them on, I love hiking with our golden retriever, Goldie, reading a good book, playing pickleball, and diving into all things holistic wellness and nutrition.

My family has been a part of St. Joseph Parish since 2019, and I feel truly blessed to now be serving the students, staff, and families of SJPS in this role. I look forward to partnering with you to help your children grow emotionally, socially, and spiritually. I can't wait to meet each of you and see all the amazing things this year will bring!




Greetings Saint Joseph Parish Families,

My name is Peggy Beaver, and I am serving as Nicole Vaculik's K4 teacher's aide this year. Before joining Saint Joes, I worked as a paraprofessional in special education at the Cedarburg School District.

My husband and I are both originally from Madison. For over 20 years, we have been residents of Cedarburg, where we raised our four children. We cherish spending time at our lake house in Waushara County, enjoying the peace and connection with nature that it brings.

I am truly excited to be a part of the Saint Joseph Parish community and to collaborate with the talented staff as I pursue my master's degree in education. Your prayers for me and all the staff members would be greatly appreciated as we embark on this school year together.

Back-to-School Picnic!



SJPS

Back to School Picnic

Tuesday, August 26th

5:00-7:00pm

Join St. Joseph Parish School staff and families for a back-to-school picnic on the SJPS grounds to celebrate the new school year!

- Meet your teacher, drop off school supplies & pay tuition.
- Purchase the new 2025-26 T-shirt (\$10), Lancer T-shirt for spirit wear days (\$10), and/or hooded sweatshirt (\$29) or crew sweatshirt (\$26).
- Shop in our free uniform store located in the library.
- Enjoy a dinner, play on the playground, bounce in a bouncy house, listen to music, visit with your school family.
- Toast marshmallows and enjoy a s'more!


*Bring lawn chairs/blankets.

SJPS Uniform "Sale"

There will also be an SJPS Uniform "sale" of gently worn and donated uniform tops, bottoms, skirts, etc. happening at the Back-to-School Picnic. Peruse the assortment in the SJPS library at the Picnic or during open Office hours. Items are free of charge!

Free/Reduced Lunch Program

To determine eligibility for Free/Reduced Lunch Program, speak to Deb Olszewski in the School Office for more information.

A decorative border surrounds the text, featuring various food items and flowers. At the top left is a yellow flower. Next to it is a red apple with a smiling face. To the right is a blue juice box with a face and a straw. Below the apple is a slice of watermelon with a face. To the right of the watermelon is a pink cotton candy. Below the watermelon is a blue pitcher with a face. To the right of the pitcher is a pink cotton candy. Below the pitcher is a blue and pink cotton candy. To the right of the cotton candy is a sandwich. At the bottom right is a brown picnic basket with a face and flowers.

Handmade with Love
will be at St. Joe's
Back to School Picnic
5pm-7pm

Tuesday August 26th 2025

We will be serving fresh
spun **COTTON CANDY!**
One spin, endless smiles!

\$4 per cone

Choose from 6 flavors...

Blue Raspberry, Strawberry, Lime,
Orange, Grape, & Cherry

 1619 Washington St.
Grafton, WI



VOLLEYBALL OPEN GYMS

**AT ST. JOSEPH PARISH SCHOOL
SUNDAYS**

AUGUST 17, 24, & 31

4TH - 6TH GRADES - 5PM - 6PM

7TH GRADE & UP 6 PM - 8 PM

THURSDAYS

AUGUST 14, 21, & 28

4TH - 6TH GRADES - 6:15 PM - 7:15 PM

7TH GRADE & UP - 7:15 PM - 9 PM

**A PARTICIPATION WAIVER MUST BE FILLED
OUT BY A PARENT PRIOR TO ATTENDING.**

**FOR QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT
KAREN THATCHER @ KKTHATCHER@GMAIL.COM.**

SJPS Picture Day

SJPS PICTURE DAY

Friday 9/12/25 9-1pm

Thursday 11/13/25 9 - 11am
(make-ups)

TO ORDER PHOTOS FROM PICTURE DAY

1. Go to vipis.com
2. Enter your school name
3. Select "School Portraits"
4. Fill in your information

If you need further assistance,
contact us at support@vipis.com



Reach out to Carren Gratz with any
questions

cgratz@stjosephgraffton.org
262.375.6505 ext. 158



2nd Grade Sacramental Preparation



2nd Grade *Sacraments*

1st Reconciliation Parent Meeting

Sunday, September 14

9:15am

Lower Level Conference Rooms

Introducing the 2025-2026 School Advisory Committee

At the SAC meeting on Monday we discerned members and roles for the 2025-26 school year. They are as follows:

Chris Baylor (Chair)
Parker Shipley (Vice Chair)
Daniel Le (Secretary)
Daphne Lingsweiler (Member)
Daniel Lochen (Member)
Shannon Morgan (Member)
Stephanie Nino De Guzman (Member)
Elizabeth Wieland (Member)

Thank you for your committment to SJPS!

There is still one spot still available for this committee. Please reach out to the school office if you are interested.

[June SAC Meeting Minutes](#)

Weekly Classroom Highlights

-- A look into what is happening throughout the halls of SJPS --

~Important Information from Previous Lancer Times~

SJPS SUMMER PARK PLAYDATES!



In an effort to help our early childhood and elementary school children keep in touch with as many friends as possible over the summer, we've created a park playdate schedule and are hoping your family will be able to attend some of these dates. This is an easy way for our children to meet up with friends at a moment's notice -- it's always more fun at the park when you run into friends!

We've planned these dates for **Friday mornings 10-11:30am** and chose a rotation of area parks with restrooms available. Come when you can, and stay for as much of the time as you'd like.

Please note that this is not a "drop off" invitation. Parents/caregivers are responsible for their own children. Our rotation of parks include:

- St. Joseph Parish School Playground Grafton, (1619 Washington Street)
- All My Friends Playground, Centennial Park, Grafton (1370 17th Ave.)
- Rotary All Children's Playground, Cedarburg (W67 N843 Evergreen Blvd)
- Lime Kiln Park, Grafton (800 S. Green Bay Rd.)
- Possibilities Playground, Upper Lake Park, Port Washington (498 N. Lake St.)

"Park Play Dates" start Friday 6/13 and continue through the summer!!!

- June 13 - St. Joseph Parish School Playground, Grafton
- June 20 - All My Friends Playground, Centennial Park, Grafton
- June 27 - Rotary All Children's Playground, Cedarburg
- July 4 - Lime Kiln Park, Grafton
- July 11- Possibilities Playground, Port Washington
- July 18 - St. Joseph Parish School Playground, Grafton
- July 25 - All My Friends Playground, Centennial Park, Grafton
- August 1- Rotary All Children's Playground, Cedarburg
- August 8 - Lime Kiln Park, Grafton
- August 15 - Possibilities Playground, Port Washington
- August 22 - St. Joseph Parish School, Playground, Grafton
- August 29 - All My Friends Playground, Centennial Park, Grafton

We hope this helps you and your children keep in touch with lots of friends this summer!

~ Have a safe and fun summer with your family ~

HOME & SCHOOL COMMITTEE is looking for more volunteers!

We are a mighty force backed by a few committed individuals! Home & School supports many wonderful events to raise money for the school, recognize teachers, and engage your kids. These are just a few of the events they've supported.

- Back to School Picnic
- Teacher Appreciation
- Raise Right
- Room Parent Activities
- Family Fun Night
- Christmas Concert Hospitality
- Open House
- Catholics Schools Week/Walk
- Scholastics Book Fair
- Grandparent's Day

If you are interested or have suggestions for improvement, please contact
Huong Le at Homeandschool@stjosephgraffton.org or text 262-573-9733

Special Thanks to our Home & School Committee Leaders who carried out all the events your child was able to enjoy this year

- Amy De Ruyter
- Becky Meyer
- Brittney Hess
- Hannah Belknap-Webber
- Mary Baylor
- Melissa Iserloth
- Shannon Morgan



RAISERIGHT GIFT CARDS FOR SALE

We have a large amount of gift cards for sale from our RaiseRight Fundraising Program. **Gift Cards make great end of the year teacher gifts.** Also, don't forget, for every gift card you purchase, a percentage is given back to you in tuition credit for next school year.

Call or stop in the school office to purchase.

[Click Here to See our Current Gift Card Inventory](#)

Donate to our Annual
Fund

RAISERIGHT ORDER FORM

Visit our Website

Parish Bulletin Look-up

2025-2026 Parent/Student Handbook

St. Joseph Parish School
1619 Washington St. Grafton, WI
262-375-6505

School Office email:
schooloffice@stjosephgraffton.org

Administration:
principal@stjosephgraffton.org

~St Joseph Parish School: Teaching, Learning, Leading and Serving as the Hands of Christ~

St. Joseph Parish | 1619 Washington Street 262-375-6505 | Grafton, WI 53024 US

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